

THE Monthly Museum;

OR,
DUBLIN LITERARY REPERTORY,
FOR AUGUST, 1814.

History, Antiquities, Biography.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF MR. KEAN,
THE CELEBRATED ACTOR.

(With a Portrait.)

THIS performer, who has lately started into celebrity, owes to his own genius and industry the elevated rank he holds in his profession. Little is known of his parents, but that his uncle was Moses Kean, well known for his talent of mimicry and ventriloquism, and his mother was the daughter of the still better known George Saville Carey. He was born in 1789.

From his earliest years he had been accustomed to the stage.— Before he was three years old he performed the part of a Cupid in *Cymon*; and he has to boast, that at the age of five, he trod the boards with the veteran chieftain of the theatre, of whom he is now the rival. He exhibited himself there among a group of children, introduced into the band of witches in *Macbeth*, to give greater effect to the scene. He also played the part of Falstaff's page, a circumstance which indicates an early dawning of theatrical talent, as this is a character which requires some exertion of puerile ability.

He did not, however, continue in a line of life, which, however indicative of the germ of genius, must most probably have terminated in a manhood of profligacy and worthlessness. Three years

which he spent at Eton, gave him a knowledge of some of the beauties of the classic authors, and could not but have tended to improve his natural taste, by subjecting it to the corrections of judgment, and improving it by habits of thought and investigation. His circumstances prevented him from persevering in a career, which might have eventually elevated him to a higher sphere of life. The theatre was a resource, to him, not only necessary, but almost natural; several years were spent by him in performing in several of the country theatres, in which he generally attained no small share of success. But the efforts of a country actor, whatever may be his intrinsic merits, can never attain celebrity.— The Irish public is accused of refusing currency to sterling merit, until stamped with the approbation of a London audience. The charge, if well founded, is not peculiar to this country. During these excursions, some ludicrous anecdotes are told of him, all marked with those traits which must adhere to the circumstances of the scenes of low life, into which his necessities compelled him to mix. They are all of a description similar to what are to be found in the

self-told adventures of the children of Thespis. In the course of his travels from one country town to another, he visited Waterford. His performances here were marked with striking traces of native genius; and rest strongly in the minds of those who could decide for themselves in matters of taste; but the voice of the public did not echo the language of taste, and he left this town unnoticed and unknown. His visit to it would be scarcely worth recording, were it not that he here met with the object whom his heart told him he could make the partaker of his joys, and, which was an expectation more likely to be fulfilled in the theatric world, a sharer in his sorrows and disappointments. With a wife added to his travelling equipage, he again arrived in England, where he again appeared in several of the theatres in the south, with talents rapidly approaching to maturity, and with a prospect of rising into eminence.

From the south of England, he passed over to Guernsey. There his success was so inadequate to his merits, that he found himself not only incapable of procuring a competency of the necessaries of life for his family, which was now increased by two children, that he found himself for some time unable to quit the island, in consequence of the debts by which he was oppressed. It is said, that when here he had even determined to exchange a line of life, in which he now almost despaired of acquiring either wealth or fame, for one in which the latter at least was within the scope of talent and resolution; he proposed engaging in the military service. Fortunately for himself, and for the British theatre, his plan was unsuccessful. After having discharged his debts, by the bene-

volent exertions of some friends, who could discern the spark of genius through the mist of the prejudice of ignorance, he took his leave of the island, once more to try his fortune in his native land. Here at length his prospects began to brighten. Engagements were formed by him in some of the southern theatres, on terms which fully testified that he was rising fast to that point to which every actor aspires. His name at length reached London. The committee of Drury-lane theatre, who had hitherto maintained an ineffectual struggle against their rivals in Covent-garden, deputed Mr. Arnold to see this actor, and if he deemed it expedient, to conclude an engagement with him. Kean was at this time playing in Dorchester.—The first time the delegate of the committee saw him on the stage was peculiarly favourable for the display of the performer's versatile abilities. The play was *Alexander the Great*, after which he danced in the ballet, and went through the antics of Harlequin in the after-piece. Mr. Arnold, who had followed him from Exeter, had also an opportunity of ascertaining his talent in another dramatic department, seldom united with excellence in the higher branches—for Kean had there played *Apollo in Midas* for his own benefit, after that of *Shylock* in the *Merchant of Venice*. The effect of his acting, though but for a single night, was such on Mr. Arnold's mind, that the next morning he concluded an engagement with him for three years, at eight guineas for the first year, with an increase at the commencement of each of the succeeding seasons. And now policy and vanity began to pay the long due debt of justice. The Drury-

lane committee deemed it expedient to awaken public curiosity, by an anticipated notice of the genius which had so long pined in obscurity; while the Dorchester public, on hearing the praises bestowed on him by that criterion of dramatic merit, as well as of political truth, a London paper, began to perceive beauties hitherto undiscovered.—The columns of their newspaper repeated praises that had originated in London. It is said, that on his first appearance before the Drury-lane committee, the current of prejudice ran strongly against him; his figure was particularly objected to. Whatever credit may be due to this circumstance, it is certain that his first appearance was in Shylock, a character well calculated to conceal the deficiencies of nature, under the guise of age and debility. In this character he pleased. The few that saw him admired. His name was buzzed about; the next night many came to see and criticise: he performed Richard; and his rank, as a first-rate tragic actor, was completely established. The committee now made a generous as well as politic sacrifice, to make amends for their former incredulity as to his success. They cancelled their first engagement, and instead of it concluded one with him for five years, at sixteen pounds for the first year, eighteen for the second, and twenty for the three last, together with a benefit each year. They also accompanied their new offer with a present of an hundred guineas.—They have had no reason to regret their liberality. Every night of Kean's performing brought in £700 into their treasury. His benefit is said to have produced upwards of £1200. After fulfilling his en-

gagement in London, the closing of the winter theatres gave him an opportunity of collecting the tribute of admiration so long withheld. Such was the change of sentiment, that he now declines engagements, where he had before solicited them. Not long since, his application for an engagement at Belfast, on a salary of two guineas a week, was declined, and a circumstance nearly similar happened in Dublin. The actor, whom the Dublin manager is now obliged to draw to his theatre by the sacrifice of half the night's profits, might have been permanently engaged at five guineas a week. On his journey to this city, he was induced to play one night at Cheltenham. His appearance was not announced till twelve o'clock on the day of acting; and the house was full.

Mr. Kean is below the middle size, slightly made, and not accurately proportioned; his face is long, his features strongly marked, not handsome, but full of intelligence; his eye dark, large, and piercing, beaming with expression, capable of conveying a great variety of emotions so rapidly, as almost to dispel the idea of succession. His dark and strongly marked eyebrow is so completely under command, he has the power of elevating and depressing it with such force and quickness, as to add much to the delineation of compound passion. The lower part of his face, also, is susceptible of equal change of muscle. In short, it is by his countenance he acts; this is the vehicle through which he infuses the kindred emotions into his hearer's soul: the action of his limbs is ever subordinate, and sometimes even unnoticed.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE PROCEEDINGS TAKEN FOR THE RECOVERY, ARRANGEMENT, AND PRESERVATION OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF IRELAND.

(Continued from p. 399, Vol. I.)

The commission appointed for England extended its enquiries to Ireland, where, it was thought, many original papers, whose contents would throw much light on those of contemporaneous existence in England might lie concealed.— Their labours were rewarded by the discovery of several original documents, valuable both for their utility and curiosity, and by the assurance it gave of still greater discoveries being the result of a more extended and vigorous search.

The following extracts from their report may convey an idea of the nature of the documents thus restored to the public :

In the *Red Book of the Exchequer* in DUBLIN, is an entry of the *Magna Charta*, 12th Nov. 1. Henry III. transmitted to Ireland, and collated from that book for Blackstone, with the *Magna Charta* of England for that date. On examination of this with the printed copy by Blackstone, several errors were discovered. In another part of this book is contained an entry of the statute of Westminster 1. iii. Edw. III. which is not to be found on the statute roll of the tower of London. This entry is followed by the entries of the statutes of Gloucester, (6 Edw. I.) de viris religiosis (7 Edw. I.) and Westminster 2. (13 Edw. I.) As it appears on a comparison, that the entries of these statutes agree with those on the statute roll in the tower, it may be concluded that the entry of stat. Westm. 1. must have been taken either from that statute roll when perfect, or from some source equally authentic. It is consequently entitled to more credit than

any copy which has been hitherto met with in England.

In another part of the same book is the following extract:—Mm. qd. 4to die Mail, anno regni regis Ed. fil. regis Ed. 17°. Dns. Rex mandavit cancellario suo Hibernie, quaedam statuta apud Lincoln. et Eborum edita, et ea in eadem terra publicari et observari precepit, per brevia qd. sequitur in haec verba:—Edwardus Dei Gra. Rex Anglie, dominus Hibernie, et dux Aquit. Cancellario suo Hibernie, salutem: Quaedam statuta &c. Teste meipso apud Nottingham xx° die Novembr. anno r. n. decimo septimo p. epm. Regem et consilium.

TRANSL. Be it remembered, that on the fourth day of May, in the seventeenth year of the reign of King Edward; son of King Edward, our lord the king, sent to his Chancellor of Ireland various statutes passed at Lincoln and York, and commanded them to be published and observed in said land, by the following brief in these words:—Edward, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Aquitaine, to his Chancellor of Ireland, greeting: Some statutes, &c. Witness myself at Nottingham; on the 20th day of Nov. in the 17th year of our reign, by the king himself, and his council.—The date of the year does not appear on the English statute roll, the uncertainty of which is supplied by the above entry.

In the office of the Townclerk at the Sessions' house in Dublin, whither all the records of the Tholsel were removed in 1796, is a book (written apparently about the time of Edw. II.) called the chain-book, having been kept chained to a table at the Tholsel. It contains an enumeration of the customs and privileges of the city of Dublin, and at the end is an instrument [in French, relating to the assize of bread, and ale, &c.

The report of the sub-commissioners proceeds to observe on the condition, arrangement, and preservation of the RECORDS OF IRELAND.

With respect to the first of these circumstances, several melancholy instances of negligence in the care

* The abundance of materials of every description sent into the Museum, and the narrowness of our limits, have induced a necessity of so long postponing the consideration of this interesting subject. The first paper relative to the inquiries on the public records, may be found by referring to the number for April, 1814.

of these important instruments, are noticed. Among others, it is mentioned, that when the old exchange at Waterford was pulled down, about forty years since, the Mayor ordered several cartloads of very old manuscripts to be thrown in a heap in the street, and burned as useless lumber. About the time of Charles I. the Burleigh family conveyed many records to Lismore castle; a fire happened there some years since, when the records were thrown in a confused heap into a tower in the castle, where they now lie. In a letter written on this subject by Lord Redesdale, when Chancellor of Ireland, he mentions that all the documents and papers belonging to the two houses of Parliament, had been removed promiscuously, on sale of the building to the bank, and lodged in a house in Anglesea-street, where they remained in utter confusion, and in danger of destruction.

The offices in which the various records were lodged at the time of the search, are stated by the commissioners to be the following:

1. The office of Under Secretary for Civil Affairs.
2. Bermingham Tower.
3. Office of Surveyor General of the Crown Lands.
4. State Paper Office.

All these are in the Castle of Dublin.

5. The house (in Anglesea-street,) where the acts, &c. of the Irish Parliament are kept.
6. The Rolls Office, at the Courts of Law.
7. The Court of Exchequer.
8. The Sessions house, in Green-st.
9. Trinity College.
10. The Cathedral of Christ's church, Dublin.

In the first of these offices are preserved twenty-six manuscript folio volumes, compiled in English by Mr. Lodge, heretofore for forty years deputy keeper of the rolls,

and of the records in Bermingham tower; these were purchased from his representatives by the government of Ireland. They contain a vast mass of useful information, well abstracted and digested; serving also to suggest a plan and offer a specimen, for translating, arranging, and digesting the contents of all the records in the kingdom, so as to afford the easiest reference, and the completest abstract.

In the Surveyor General's office are kept the maps made by Sir Wm. Petty, on the survey of the forfeited lands, usually called the DOWN SURVEY; as also copies of barony maps, by Gen. Vallancey.* These maps are recognised by law as of high authenticity. The insecure state in which they are is, therefore, much to be regretted.— They are in a small room, at the top of an old house, very subject to accidents by fire (a circumstance which occurred not long since) and where there is very little room for consulting them. Several of the maps of the Down survey have been injured by the boundary lines having been traced over by a pen, knife, or other pointed instrument, in order to make exact copies. This practice is now discontinued.

In treating of the steps to be taken for the future security and preservation of the records, reference is made to a letter on the subject from Lord Redesdale, the then Chancellor, to the Earl of Hardwicke, the then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in which, after stating the facts here noticed, the appointment of a commission for Ireland, similar to that already in action in England, is strongly recommended. The consequence of

* For a further account of these valuable maps, see MONTHLY MUSEUM for May, No. viii. Vol. I. p. 469.

these combined representations has been, that the subject was seriously taken up by the Imperial Parliament, and the king, upon the address of the house of commons, issued a commission in the year 1809, for investigating, arranging, and preserving the PUBLIC RE-

CORDS OF IRELAND. The progress made by this commission, which still continues its enquiries, and sends regular reports of its proceedings to the parliament, must be the subject of a future paper.

ANECDOTES OF CELEBRATED CHARACTERS.

BURKE.

The following notice of the death of one of the greatest men of the last century, will be read with sympathetic emotions by all who remember the original, and may serve as a model for those ephemeral effusions of sentiment, which are often deemed as necessary accompaniments to departed friendship, as the velvet pall or the gilt coffin:

"——— Died, at his seat at Beaconsfield, after a long and painful illness, which he bore with a pious fortitude suited to his character, in his 68th year, the Right Hon. EDMUND BURKE. His end was suited to the simple greatness of mind which he displayed through life; every way unaffected; without levity, without ostentation.— Full of natural grace and dignity, he appeared neither to wish nor to dread, but patiently and placidly to wait the appointed hour of his dissolution. He had been listening to some essay of Addison's, in which he ever took delight; he had recommended himself in many affectionate messages to the remembrance of those absent friends, whom he had never ceased to love; he had conversed some time with his accustomed force of thought and of expression, on the awful situation of his country, for the welfare of which his heart was interested to the last beat; he had

given, with steady composure, some private directions, in contemplation of his approaching death, when, as his attendants were conveying him to his bed, he sunk down, and after a short struggle, passed quietly, and without a groan, to eternal rest, in that mercy which he had just declared he had long sought with unfeigned humiliation, and to which he looked with a trembling hope."

I know of but few similar passages that can be put in comparison with this. One, indeed, I remember, which at the time struck me forcibly, and I should be glad to revise it, in order to ascertain whether the coolness of reflection, and lapse of time, would sanction the judgment formed by the ardor of the moment. It was a notice in a northern provincial paper, of the death of a physician, once well known in Ireland—the intelligent, convivial, and patriotic Doctor Halliday.

HUSSEY BURGH.

This celebrated patriot, when speaking of the effect which the British restrictions on our commerce had produced, in arming the people to shake them off, used this expression in the house of commons:—"Such laws were sown like dragon's teeth, and spring up in armed men." This elegant and appropriate allusion was then highly applauded, and has since been often

quoted; but it appears not to be generally known, that the idea is taken from Milton. That great writer, when speaking of the necessity of the government watching the state of the press, says—"I know that they (books of an inflammatory nature) are as lively and as vigorously productive, as those fabulous dragon's teeth; and being sowed up and down, may chance to spring up armed."

LORD KENYON.

A friend of Lord Kenyon had sold him a cottage at Richmond; and on going down to that town once on business, wished to take a view of the premises; an old house-keeper admitted him; on the table were three books; the Bible, Epictetus, and the Whole Duty of Man. "Does my Lord read this?" said the gentleman, taking up the Bible. "No," said the woman, "he is always poring upon this little book," pointing to the Epictetus; "I do not know what it is; my Lady reads the two others; they come down here of a Saturday evening, and bring with them a leg or shoulder of mutton; this serves them the Sunday, and they leave me the remains." A Chief Justice of England, thus severely simple in his taste and habits, is at least a curiosity.

HOGARTH.

This painter, in the early part of his life, applied his talents to paint portraits, the most ill-suited employment imaginable to a man whose turn certainly was not flattery, nor his talent adapted to look on vanity without a sneer. He took, however, excellent likenesses. He was in the constant habit of converting every uncommon head he met with into a study, by sketching it on the spot; this he would do on his nail with a pencil. The

original of a well-known story is contained in the following note:

"Mr. Hogarth's respectful compliments to Lord —, finding that he does not mean to have the picture which was drawn for him, is informed again of Mr. H.'s necessity for the money; if, therefore, his Lordship does not send for it in three days, it will be disposed of with the addition of a tail, and some other little appendages, to Mr. Hare, the famous wild beast man; Mr. Hogarth having given that gentleman a conditional promise of it, for an exhibition picture, on his Lordship's refusal."—This intimation had the desired effect.

WOLFE.

An old soldier used some years ago to attend strangers who visited Carisbrook castle, in the Isle of Wight, in order to point out its curiosities, and was accustomed at the conclusion to exhibit himself as the greatest curiosity there, as being the person in whose arms *the immortal Wolfe expired*. He assured a gentleman who made some inquiries relative to the fall of a hero, to commemorate which the arts of painting, poetry, and sculpture, have all conspired, that far from displaying the lively interest ascribed to him, in the fate of the day, he appeared absorbed in his own sufferings, oppressed with languor and debility, and nearly insensible to what was passing about him.

A TRUE BORN IRISHMAN.

During the reign of Henry VII. the Earl of Kildare avoided the usual consequences of an attainder by a singular mixture of frankness and intrepidity. On being summoned to England to answer his accusers, he was admitted into the presence of the King. "I would advise you," said his Majesty, "to

provide yourself with counsel."—"So I will," replied the Earl, "with the ablest in the kingdom;" and, seizing the king's hand, added, "I will take your highness for my counsel against these false knaves." The king was not displeased at this liberty, and still less at the noble ascription of integrity which it implied. In the course of his trial it was alleged against him, that he had impiously and sacrilegiously burnt the church of Cashel. "I know I did," said Kildare, "but then I thought the Archbishop was in it." When the trial was concluded, his prosecutors, feeling that they had not successfully proved their allegations, at least not to the king's satisfaction, said to him in all the bitterness of resentment, "that all Ire-

land could not govern that earl;" to which Henry promptly replied, "then that earl shall govern all Ireland." He was as good as his word, for he received him into favour again, making him deputy of Ireland, in place of Sir Edward Poynings; a generosity of conduct which Kildare justified by his subsequent gratitude, which was soon put to the test by the rebellion of Ulick Burke, Lord Clanricarde, who had married his daughter.—This alliance, intimate as it was, did not impede him in the full discharge of his duty. Collecting his English forces, he met the rebel lord at Knockston, near Galway, where he defeated him with great slaughter, and took two of his sons prisoners.

(To the Editor of the Monthly Museum.)

SIR,

If the following historical anecdotes can be admitted into the MUSEUM, they are at your service. Yours, &c.

August 1, 1814.

TRUE INDEPENDENCE.

It is the fashion of the present day to designate liberty as the cloak of anarchy and licentiousness. The following anecdote will prove, that the spirit of genuine liberty, so far from being a watch-word for outrage, is not only perfectly consistent with every principle of justice and regular government, but may be called the parent of them.

During the ferment at Boston, that preceded the disturbances which terminated in a civil war between the English ministry and the American colonies, four persons were killed by the soldiery.—The death of their townsmen had such an effect on the inhabitants of this city, that the governor found it necessary to remove all the

king's troops, as the ferment of the public mind was so great, that his personal safety was otherwise insecure. The officer who commanded the party was with several others committed to prison; and, to the immortal honour of the American nation it should be told, that after a full trial in the town where the occurrence took place, and before a jury composed of those men whose fellow-citizens had been slaughtered, all were acquitted, except two who were found guilty of manslaughter. The two gentlemen who advocated the cause of the prisoners were themselves among the warmest friends of liberty. Their words, on such an occasion, are therefore worthy of being recorded. "We must," said they, "steel ourselves against pre-

B. D.

possessions, which contaminate the fountain of justice. The law, in all vicissitudes of government, fluctuations of passion, or flights of enthusiasm, should preserve a steady undeviating course. To use the words of a patriot, a hero, a martyr to liberty, ALGERNON SYDNEY—"Tis mens sine affectu; without any regard to persons, it commands that which is good, and punishes that which is evil; it is deaf, inexorable, inflexible. On the one hand, it is deaf to the cries and lamentations of the prisoners; on the other, it is deaf, deaf as an adder, to the clamours of the populace."

BRITISH LEGISLATION FOR IRELAND.

According to the provisions of Poyning's law, no act of parliament could originate in Ireland.—The form of legislation was, to propose *heads of a bill* in either house of parliament, which, when altered and amended as deemed necessary, were referred to the Irish privy council, to be transmitted to the British cabinet to receive its approbation. Sometimes the privy council did not send them over. They were then said to be

cushioned, and were heard no more of. If they arrived in London, and the general principle was approved of by the statesmen there, after receiving whatever alterations were deemed expedient, they were again returned to Ireland, where, if they passed through both houses of parliament without alteration, they received the royal assent from the viceroy, and then had the force of law. In the year 1769, the inconveniencies of this system were strongly proved by a bill returned to Ireland, after having received seventy-four alterations in successive revisions, by Lord Thurlow, when Attorney-General, Lord Rosslyn, when Solicitor General, and a chamber council. The bill, thus metamorphosed, was rejected by the commons of Ireland. The temporary duties expired some weeks before a new bill could pass through all the forms. In the mean time, the merchants imported their goods duty free; the commissioners, without authority from any existing law, seized the goods, and lodged them in the king's stores.—The merchants, with the *posse comitatus*, broke open the stores, and carried away the goods in triumph.

(To the Editor of the Monthly Museum.)

SIR,

I have been informed, that in some part of the county of Antrim there is a rocking stone, similar to those recorded in history, as used by the Druids in their judicial rites. Several of your correspondents, as well as I, would feel gratified in having the fact ascertained, and if such a curious relic of remote antiquity be really in existence, a description of it in its present state would be generally interesting.

I know of no subject capable of affording more pleasure to a well-

VOL. II.

informed mind, than investigations, tending to point out the ancient state of our native country. Your magazine professes to assist such researches, and in many cases has been serviceable. Continue to add to this part of your stores; for, you may be assured, it will be very acceptable to a great portion of your subscribers. I am, sir, your constant reader,

M'ERIN.

August 3, 1814.

U

Social Economy, and the Useful Arts.

(For the Monthly Museum.)

ACCOUNT OF THE CHARTER SCHOOLS IN IRELAND.

THE charter for establishing Protestant schools in Ireland, was granted in 1733, in consequence of a petition of the principal nobility, clergy, and gentry in Ireland, stating the ignorance, disaffection, and want of civilization, that prevailed among the popish inhabitants, and praying for the incorporation of a society for establishing and maintaining a sufficient number of protestant schools in proper situations, as one of the most effectual means of converting and civilizing the Irish natives; in which the children of the poor might be instructed gratis in the English language, and the fundamental principles of true religion and loyalty.

The society, thus established, became in process of time very wealthy, from a variety of grants and bequests both of a public and private nature. The first school was founded at Castle-dermot, under the patronage of the then Earl of Kildare, who endowed it with twenty acres of land, in addition to a subscription of £500. In the two following years, seven other schools were founded. The means of their support proceeded not only from the subscriptions of the protestant gentry of Ireland, but also from English subscriptions, to collect and transmit which a corresponding society was formed.— A duty on hawkers and pedlars was appropriated by parliament for their support, and when this failed grants of money were voted gradually, augmenting to nearly £20,000 per annum. Many persons of landed property, also, left large bequests by will, to this society. The most

remarkable of these were, one from a Dutch nobleman, Baron Vryhousen, who bequeathed to the use of the schools, funded property, amounting to £56,666, in the 3 per cents. producing an interest of about £1,700 per annum. An unknown benefactor also bequeathed £40,000 in the four per cents. producing about £1,600 per annum.

The business of the society is conducted by four committees.—

1. The committee of fifteen, which regulates the economy of all the schools, and has the principal direction of the whole establishment.
2. The committee of accounts.
3. The law committee.
4. The committee for examining into the qualifications of candidates for masters, mistresses, and assistants.

The officers of the society are a secretary, at a salary of £250 per annum; a clerk or register, at one hundred guineas, and an inspector of apprentices in Dublin, at twenty pounds per annum. In addition to these committees and officers living in Dublin, each school is under the immediate inspection of a local committee, consisting of the principal resident protestant gentlemen and ladies in the neighbourhood, and of a catechist, who is always a clergyman of the established church. The duty of this last named officer is to superintend the religious instruction of the children, to report monthly on the state of the school, and the conduct of the master, and, in concert with the local committee, to exercise general controul, to examine and settle accounts, and to report every quar-

ter to the committee of fifteen in Dublin. It has been found, however, that the local committee, though capable of obtaining the most accurate and authentic information, cannot be universally or implicitly relied on, either as an effectual organ of controul over the masters, or of communication as to their actual state. The society has been frequently misled by the too favourable representations of their local committees. There is, however, one check upon their reports. The schools are ordered to be open to the inspection of any gentleman or lady who may choose to visit them, who are requested to note down any observations that may occur to them relative to the state of the school, in a book kept for that purpose, which observations, the masters are bound to transmit to Dublin, once a quarter, on pain of dismissal.

The charter did not originally confine the admission of children to those of any particular sect.—But such was evidently its spirit, and such the intention of the founders; in consequence of which the committee, by two resolutions, made in 1775 and 1776, particularly limited the admission to children of popish parents. However, in 1803 a more liberal sentiment prevailed: since that period all children who appeared to be proper objects, were admitted without distinction of sect, except in three of the schools, where the terms of admission were limited by the express words of the granter of the endowment.

In addition to the schools for educating children capable of receiving literary and religious instruction, four nurseries for infants were opened under the immediate patronage and support of the Irish

parliament, the pupils of which were transmitted to the several schools, whenever a vacancy occurred, on attaining the age of six years. The children are educated, clothed, fed, and lodged in the schools, until they are of a fit age to be apprenticed. The books used in their education are as follow:—

Bible and Testament of the Church of England.
 Secker's Lectures.
 Book of Common Prayer.
 Psalters.
 Four Gospels, with notes.
 Selton's Abridgement.
 Whole Duty of Man.
 Mrs. Trimmer's Lessons.
 Catechism by ditto.
 Hannah More's Tracts.
 Duties of Religion.
 Gilpin's Lives.
 Dr. Mann's Catechism.
 Ditto abridged.
 Church Catechism.
 Stopford's do.
 Crossman's do.
 Moral Lessons.
 Spelling Lessons.
 Reading made easy.
 Primers.
 Gough's Arithmetic.
 Voster's ditto.
 Copperplate pieces.

A little tract called the Protestant Catechism, formerly universally used in these schools, is now excluded, much to the credit of the committee. All that could be learned from it, in addition to the multifarious religious knowledge acquired by the study of the library already enumerated, is a rooted aversion to the major part of their countrymen; combined with an overweening self-pride, originating in their own fancied superiority in christian learning.

The children are apprenticed to protestant masters only. The masters and mistresses are allowed five guineas apprentice fee; those of the girls, seven, guineas; payable in the following manner: One gui-

nea and a half at the expiration of the second year; the like sum at the expiration of the fourth year; and the remaining two guineas at the expiration of the apprenticeship. The seven guineas to be paid as follows: one guinea at the end of each of the first four years, and the remaining three at the expiration of the apprenticeship.

This society, though under the immediate patronage of the Irish parliament, has accomplished very little of its object, that of converting the catholic population of Ireland. After the first ebullition of novelty had subsided, the schools existed in a very declining state, so that when they were visited by the celebrated Howard, his report was extremely discouraging. Nor does it appear that the exposure of their declining state had for several years any effect in stimulating either the superintending committee in Dublin, or the local committees, to a proper discharge of the duties they had undertaken. Latterly, indeed, that is, for a few years previous to the enquiries made by the board of education in 1808, much attention was paid to them, and the state of the schools was consequently highly improved. But the beneficial results to be ultimately expected from their continuance, may be best appreciated by the language of the commissioners themselves, when concluding their report on this department of national education—

“While we warmly and sincerely applaud the pious and patriotic efforts of those who contributed to the establishment, and laboured for the success of this institution, we feel ourselves bound to state, that

during a very considerable period of its continuance, it appears to have fallen short of attaining the purposes for which it was established, and to have failed of one great object that was intended and expected from it—the conversion of the lower orders of the inhabitants of Ireland from the errors of popery. The utter inadequacy of the institution, in point of magnitude and extent, for that object, is sufficient to account for this failure, independently of the operation of other causes. The number of Popish children in all the schools, at any one time, has probably never amounted to sixteen hundred, and this must have borne so small a proportion to the whole number to be educated, as to have no sensible influence on the great mass of population, even allowing that all who were educated in these schools continued in the protestant persuasion; this, however, is certainly not the fact; and though it is impossible to ascertain the number of those who have returned to the popish persuasion, there is reason to believe that it has not been inconsiderable. But there is another important end of this institution, which has always been answered by it to a certain extent, and appears at this time (Dec. 1808) to be attained to a very high degree indeed, the instruction of so great a number of poor and destitute children, bringing them up to habits of industry, and qualifying them to become useful members of society; advantages of peculiar importance, in a country abounding in population, and where no general public fund is provided for relieving the distresses of the poor.”

TABLE OF THE CHARTER SCHOOLS IN IRELAND.

No.	Schools, &c.	Where situate	When founded	Lands at- tached to the School.		Est. no. of chil- dren.
				A.	R.	
1	Ardbracken	Meath	1745	17	1	60
2	Arklow	Wicklow	1740	20	1	50
3	Baggot-street	Dublin	1804			60
4	Ballycastle	Antrim	1737	20	0	60
5	Ballykelly	L. Derry	1752	68	Eng.	50
6	Cashel	Tipperary	1751	21	2	80
7	Castlebar	Mayo	1768	22	0	50
8	Castledermot	Kildare	1737	20	0	40
9	Castlemartyr	Cork	1749	22	0	40
10	Clonmeil	Tipperary	1748	24	2	60
11	Clontarf	Dublin	1748	10	0	120
12	Charleville	Cork	1748	15	3	50
13	Creggane	Armagh	1737	32	0	40
14	Dundalk	Louth	1738			40
15	Dunkerrin	King's Co.	1753	22	0	50
16	Dunmanway	Cork	1751	20	0	50
17	Farra	W. Meath	1758	32	0	60
18	Innishannon	Cork	1752	42	0	50
19	Kilkenny	Kilkenny	1745	20	0	70
20	Longford	Longford	1755	35	3	60
21	Loughrea	Galway	1749	41	0	50
22	Maynooth	Kildare	1749	14	1	50
23	Newport	Tipperary	1751	20	0	60
24	Ray	Donegall	1740	22	0	30
25	Rosa	Wexford	1741	30	2	60
26	Santry	Dublin	1744	33	1	60
27	Shannon-green	Limerick	1735	28	0	60
28	Strangford	Down	1718	22	0	50
29	Stradbally	Queen's co.	1758	30	0	50
30	Sligo	Sligo	1755	20	0	80
31	Trim	Meath	1748	9	0	60
32	Waterford	Waterford	1744	20	0	60
NURSERIES.						
1	Dublin	Dublin				120
2	Monastereven	Kildare	1762	1	0	100
3	Monivea	Galway	1760	32	0	100
4	Shannon-grove	Limerick		2	0	100

2230

The landed property of the society was estimated in 1808 at upwards of £10,000 per annum, the annual parliamentary grant at about £20,000. The average expenses of each year, according to the commissioners of education, was somewhat more than £30,000; the number of children maintained and educated 2,093, whence it appears that the average expense of

each child was £14. It is almost needless to remark, that the same sum, employed solely for the purposes of general education, unshackled by any secret views of proselytism, would have accomplished what the devisers of the charter schools professed, the education of the poorer classes in Ireland.

SOCIETY FOR PROVIDING CHEAP BOOKS.

(To the Editor of the Monthly Museum.)

SIR,

IN a late publication, I observed the idea of a society, established for providing useful books for the poorer classes, at cheap rates, noticed. I have often thought such a step not only useful, but absolutely necessary, for completing the plan of general, or as it is now called, national education. The progress of learning is rapidly extending; in a short time, it may be hoped, that few will be incapable of reading the bible. Ignorance will be as disgraceful as it is detrimental. But if a stop be made here—if the bible be the only book that the poor man can procure, the general zeal for knowledge will soon be stopped—the stimulus to farther exertion of mind will fail. The bible, useful—necessary as it is, supplies but one kind of knowledge—it no doubt excites a wish for practising the virtues suitable to humble industry; but it does not provide the means. Every man will still stand in need of such books as will direct his newly excited energies to their proper lines of action. Anxious as the farmer or mechanic may be to enhance the value of his labour, by the improvements of modern ingenuity, unless he is taught what these improvements are, and how they can be reduced to practice, his case is little bettered.

There are other reasons for carrying this plan into effect. Elementary school books, necessary for teaching to read, should be as cheap as possible. It is a singular instance of human perversity, that parents, even in situations of life where a small additional expense is

an object of no moment, strongly object to it on account of school books. The same person who will lay out pounds on articles of luxury, who will lavish money on teachers at best but of ornamental accomplishments, is ever ready to exclaim at the trifle requisite for procuring the books that are to give his child the foundations of knowledge. Though it is not for the class who can indulge in luxuries, which the society now spoken of is formed for, yet it is fair to conclude, that the same feeling, universal among the better informed, should operate also on those whose minds have had fewer opportunities of rational expansion; that what must be purchased by a privation of some of the necessities of life, will be strongly objected to.

There is also a large class of society to which the bible is a sealed volume. The catholics are taught to believe that the church of England bible, the only one which the poor man can obtain, is erroneous; that it is falsely translated: they are forbidden to read it; it is to them what their translation is to us—pure water in a corrupt vessel. Which translation should be preferred is not the question now at issue: it is whether other books ought not to be procured, to excite and keep up a spirit of study in those who think it sinful to read that book. Here is a large and useful scope for the labours of such a society. The good that may result from enlightening the minds of the amazing numbers that cannot be illuminated on the present

principle of what is very improperly called national education, is incalculable.

It is needless to ask what books should come within the consideration of such a society. No time supplies so great a number of publications for children and the lower classes as the present. The following enumeration of the several sorts into which they may be divided, will perhaps convey some idea of their nature: They should be then—1st. Primers and elementary reading books. 2. Tracts uniting entertainment with useful practical instruction. 3. Books of instruction on the several departments of general industry—more particularly attending to what may improve domestic economy and agriculture, as applicable to small farms. 4. Poetry and works of fancy, which operate most strongly on the imaginations of the people in this country, and are perhaps the surest and most

expedient means of dispelling the poison of the books and ballads now circulated. 5. Histories—recommended as advantageous, but not necessary.

Books of these kinds, printed and published at cheap rates, would be the most useful gift a friend to society could bestow. A plan for providing them must do good; its utility will be in proportion to the extent to which it is carried. Let us go a step farther, for there is ever room to advance a step farther in the career of well-directed benevolence. May we hope not only to see this society in full action, but to see its operations followed up by benevolent societies, in all parts of the kingdom, disseminating the streams of private improvement and public prosperity into every corner, by means of circulating libraries, properly selected and well regulated? I am, sir, your well-wisher,
B. B.

(For the Monthly Museum.)

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE CAUSE OF BLIGHT, MILDEW, AND RUST, IN CORN.

THE ravages made by the blight induced the celebrated Sir J. Banks, from whose popular essay on this subject many of the following observations are taken, to enquire particularly into the nature of this disease, and his extensive experience peculiarly fitted him to perform a task so useful to practical agriculturists. It is styled a disease, because the different appellations are but various names for different stages of the same process.

All perfect plants are provided by nature with mouths or pores on the surface of their leaves and stalks. These are destined to sup-

ply the vegetable's want of locomotion, by enabling it to profit by all the aqueous particles which may fall upon it, or be contained in the air which surrounds it. They are open in wet, and shut in dry weather; and greedily absorb the moisture that comes in contact with them. The surface of straw is covered with alternate stripes; the one set more solid—the other filled with the mouths just now described. Into the latter the farina of a small parasitic fungus frequently penetrates; there it sprouts, and though its roots have not yet been detected beyond the bark, there can be no doubt that they

push themselves into the cellular texture, and, intercepting the sap in its ascent, nourish the little mushroom at the expence of the grain. It is the kernel of the primary plant which suffers by this intrusion; in proportion to the number of fungi which take root in the stalk, the grain in the ear is shrivelled; and while the bran remains as plentiful as before, the flour is so much diminished, that some part of a year's crop affected by it did not yield a stone from a sack of wheat; or it may happen that the whole produce, if ground, should give bran alone. This fungus attacks corn early in spring; assumes an orange colour, which afterwards becomes a deep brown; and, in hot weather, ripens and sheds its seed perhaps in the space of a week. Spring corn suffers less from it than winter, probably because the fungus has less time to spread over and exhaust it. It does not seem peculiar to this country. All over Europe where corn is grown, the blight is known; and specimens of a parasitic plant, nearly resembling the English, have lately been received in wheat from New South Wales. Nor does this fungus appear to attack corn plants only. The neighbourhood of a barberry bush will infect a whole district of grain with the disease; from whence our author very reasonably infers, that this tree, known to be very subject to a rust resembling the blight, sheds the farina of its fungus, which the wind carries to the pores of the corn.

Early in the season, the rust, in its orange-coloured stage, may be observed upon a few stalks here and there in a field. At this period it takes many weeks of coming to maturity; and that interval our author advises the farmer to em-

ploy in eradicating those infected plants, which, if permitted to ripen, are so many nests of numberless fungi. Each pore may contain from twenty to forty, and each fungus sheds a hundred seed; so that, in the hot season, when they ripen quickly, a single stalk may infect a whole parish. He suspects it may likewise find its way in the straw, mixed up with manure; and several grasses are obviously subject to it. The former cause is easily removed; and careful weeding is a certain preventive of the latter.

Two suggestions of very great importance arise here. The first is a query, whether the copious growth of these fungi upon the leaves and stalks of corn does not add to the nutritive matter of the straw? The weight of the straw is certainly increased in proportion as the grain loses by the growth of the parasitical plant; but the question is submitted to farmers, whether the fungus has the qualities which adapt it to the stomachs of cattle? A question which may easily be answered by the experience of a year's feeding from the straw crop.

The other suggestion is of still greater moment:

‘It cannot be improper to remark, that although the seeds of wheat are rendered, by the exhausting power of the fungus, so lean and shrivelled that scarce any flour fit for the manufacture of bread can be obtained by grinding them, these very seeds will, except, perhaps, in the very worst cases,* answer the purpose of seed corn, as well as the fairest and

* Eighty grains of the most blighted wheat that could be obtained, were sown in pots in the hot house; of these, seventy-two produced healthy plants, a loss of ten per cent. only.

plumpest sample that can be obtained, and in some respects better; for, as a bushel of much blighted corn will contain one third at least more grains in number than a bushel of plump corn, three bushels of such corn will go as far in sowing land, as 4 bushels of large grain.

The use of the flour of corn in furthering the process of vegetation, is to nourish the minute plant from the time of its development till its roots are able to attract food from the manured earth; for this purpose, one-tenth of the contents of a grain of good wheat is more than sufficient. The quantity of flour in wheat has been increased by culture and management calculated to improve its qualities for the benefit of mankind, in the same proportion as the pulp of apples and pears has been increased by the same means, above what is found on the wildings and crabs in the hedges.

It is customary to set aside or to purchase for seed corn, the boldest and plumpest samples that can be obtained; that is, those that contain the most flour. But this is an unnecessary waste of human subsistence; the smallest grains, such as are sifted out before the wheat is carried to market, and either consumed in the farmer's family, or given to his poultry, will be found, by experience, to answer the purpose of propagating the sort from whence they sprung, as effectually as the largest.

Every ear of wheat is composed of a number of cups placed alternately on each side of the straw; the lower ones contain, according to circumstances, three or four grains, nearly equal in size, but, towards the top of the ear, where the nutriment is diminished by the more ample supply of those that are nearer the root, the third

or fourth grain in a cup is frequently defrauded of its proportion, and becomes shrivelled and small.—These small grains, which are rejected by the miller, because they do not contain flour enough for his purpose, have nevertheless an ample abundance for all purposes of vegetation, and as fully partake of the sap (or blood, as we should call it in animals) of the kind which produced them, as the fairest and fullest grain that can be obtained from the bottoms of the lower cups, by the wasteful process of beating the sheaves.

A good deal of illiberal attack has been excited by these most important suggestions. Certain practical men have treated the idea of feeding cattle with the rust of the straw as something equally absurd in itself, with a proposal to grow fat by eating scabby mutton. But it should be recollected, that the cases are not at all parallel.—The scab of mutton is an unwholesome concretion, not a new animal; the rust of corn is a new and thriving plant. Besides, there are certain morbid excesses in animals which we eat without scruple, and, doubtless, receive nourishment from. What is the fat of prize cattle but a disease? Do we not feast upon enlarged livers of geese and turkeys? or, to take a case still more in point, is not our attention carefully directed, in many cases, to the propagation of one plant upon the stem and from the fat of another. There is evidently nothing in the supposition now made which entitles it to be viewed as self-contradictory.—It is a fair subject of inquiry. As for the suggestion relative to seed corn, it is equally a hint deserving further examination. At the same time, the author mentions the grounds of his own opinion, in so

far as he has adopted one. He has received very respectable testimonies from practical men in the course of the discussion which his tract has excited; and, surely, to raise an outcry about the possible danger that may result from farmers being tempted to sow insufficient grain by his representations, is, in the extreme, inconsiderate, as well as unfair. Can any doubt

be entertained that the hint now given will be brought gradually to the test of experiment; and that a considerable portion of the crop will be risked upon the authority of our author's views, only when experience shall have proved that they are correct? We trust that this decisive testimony will soon be adduced, to the final determination of the question.

(To the Editor of the *Monthly Museum*.)

SIR,

I understand that your very useful and entertaining Magazine has a more general circulation in the interior of this kingdom, than any other periodical publication. I therefore take the liberty of requesting you will, as soon as you can spare room, allow this letter to appear in it, in hopes that it will meet the eye of some experienced and scientific agriculturist, who may be enabled to explain, what at present appears to me a phenomenon, and by such explanation render useful knowledge to the growers of potatoe crops, and to the great mass of the people of this part of the United Kingdom, whose chief food depends upon the true knowledge of their best culture.

I occupy a considerable farm, and as it is of a mixed nature, I make a considerable quantity of manure, which I lay out on ground (generally broken) and let what I can spare, at a certain rate, to the neighbouring poor, on which they plant their potatoes, and by which my ground is brought into heart for again turning to white crops.

Last year I let out about nine acres in this way, and I suppose no part of the kingdom ever produced a finer crop, free in every respect from complaint. This year I let out an adjoining field in the same way, of still larger extent; the ground in both, of the exact same

quality (a silicious clay). Twenty different persons have planted their potatoes in it; the seed of different denominations, some brought from mountain, some miles distant, some from bog, and others from different parts of the adjoining country, notwithstanding which there is not a single ridge in the whole, that is not more or less infected with curl. Some of the ridges were planted the first week in March, and some so late as May. Some has been lightly covered, some covered heavily, with a reasonable time between planting and second spitting, and others planted, second spitted, and shoveled in the first instance; and I must also observe, that early in June a sharp frost injured the crops of most of my neighbours, yet to all appearance my field remained unhurt by it. Amongst the various opinions I have met with on the subject of this disease, I am not able to find one to correspond with the facts I have stated. I am therefore induced to submit it for the consideration of the scientific farmer, and I trust, if what I have stated is sufficiently clear, that it will induce some person who has studied the nature of the disease, to give an explanation of its cause, through the medium of your useful columns.

I am, sir, &c.

D.

Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

(For the Monthly Museum.)

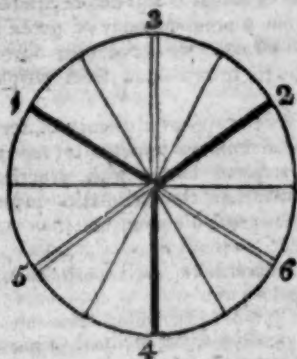
ON COLOURS, AND THEIR NOMENCLATURE.

THE indefinite signification of the names of colours, has been the source of much inconvenience to science in general, and a continual perplexity to writers and translators. When we consider the infinitely various modifications of which light is susceptible, and the widely dissimilar nature of the objects by which these modifications are indicated, we cease to wonder that no attempt has been made to distinguish colours by any systematic nomenclature. Conceiving, however, that something might be done towards the advancement of so desirable an attainment, I have been led to consider colours, practically taking advantage of satisfactory theorems, and I now come to hazard a few hints on the subject.

1. There are three primary simple colours: red, yellow, and blue. These exist, as it were, in respective points, from which they can never diverge without being affected by each other, and consequently changed from their original characters; hence arises—

2. A progressional series of tints proceeding from each of the primary colours to the points where their mutual forces are equally counteracted; in which points are formed the equi-binary compounds, orange, purple, and green: in all the intermediate points, the force of one of the simple colours predominates.

It will be necessary to illustrate this by a diagram:



The primary colours, distinguished by a strong line, are Red 1, Yellow 2, and Blue 4. The equi-binary compounds have double lines, and are, Orange 3, Green 6, and Purple 5. The sum of each compound is equal to those of its constituent parts. The middle point between 1 and 3 is fiery orange—between 3 and 2 pale orange—between 2 and 6 warm green—between 6 and 4 bluish green—between 4 and 5 dark purple—and between 5 and 1, violet.

3. Every tint that can be conceived, except those already enumerated, is a ternary compound of the three simple colours, combined in an infinitude of proportions.—Some idea may be formed of the amazing variety of this class, from considering that the smallest quantity of 4 is sufficient to affect every point from 1 to 2 exclusively, producing decided ternary compound hues. As the quantity of the 4 is increased, or its quality altered,

new series of ternates will be obtained *ad infinitum*. The same thing may be observed of the other simple colours. Black results from the mutual and equal counteraction of the forces of the three simple colours, which therefore I call an equi-ternate; and the neutral tint of artists is this colour diluted. From a predominancy of green in the ternate, we have olive—from orange, brown—and from purple, grey.

As the approved theory of accidental colours appears to me to correspond better with practical results than the prismatic system of the great Newton, that

—“Pure intelligence, whom God
“To mortals lent, to trace his boundless
works

“From laws sublimely simple.”

So I should be inclined to prove my positions by it; but as entering fully into the speculation would occupy too much space, I will merely bring into view what is necessary for elucidation.

When the eye rests steadily for a length of time on any particular colour, the optic nerve becomes obtunded and insensible to it, and a new colour is seen, under certain circumstances, of the form and dimensions of the colour first examined. The colours thus apparently generated Buffon called “accidental;” but as I find that they are uniformly the perfect *contrasts* to those which seemingly produce them, I think they are less vaguely designated by this term.

1. I find on examining any of the primary colours, that the contrast is a compound of the other two:—thus, that of red is green—of yellow, purple—and of blue, orange. Any one may be satisfied of these facts, by looking with fixed attention on any small object exhibiting

a perfect specimen of red, for nearly a minute, then remove the eye to a white object equally distant, where its perfect contrast, green, (the compound hue of blue and yellow, the other simple colours) will be beautifully displayed of a figure and size similar to the specimen examined.

2. On employing any one of the equi-binary compounds, I have always found its contrast to be that simple colour, which is not one of its constituent principles. But if the binary compound has one of its component parts in predominance, then the contrast will not be a pure simple colour, but compounded of the contrasts to the primary and equi-binary colours, between which it is situated in the foregoing diagram. Hence an explanation can be offered of the apparent contradictory results attending the experiments of some eminent speculatists. As they have employed the prismatic colours in their enquiries, they have bluish-green instead of perfect green as the accidental colour of red. Now the red of the prism is not a true primary colour, but considerably tinged with yellow; and if we refer to the diagram, we will find it situated between 1 and 3, so that its contrast lies between 4 and 6, which is bluish-green. From this it appears, that the perfect purity of the tints examined had not been sufficiently attended to, and from this example also we may infer the cause of other variations.

3. In the same way we find, that black and white are mutual contrasts, and that all ternates have degrees of white for their contrasts, tinged with the accidental hues of such colours as predominate in their respective compositions.

As these premises are introduc-

ory to the nomenclature which I shall next send you. I have purposely avoided particularizing experiments, as those I shall then detail will answer the purpose.

G. N. S.

Limerick, July, 1814.

ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SCIENTIFIC PURSUITS:

Extracted from a Discourse, intended to be read in a Literary Society.

(Concluded from page 101.)

IN addition to the reason here assigned, and others, that may be hereafter assigned, some perhaps will look to political causes—but, without deciding on the causes, the fact is undeniable. Let us, however, entertain a hope, which seems well grounded on the encreasing thirst for information spreading now through Ireland, that the ardent genius and well-directed ambition of Irishmen will rush to fields of science as the scenes for exertion; and should this take place we need not fear the result. Ireland would then be accurately searched, and all her native stores arranged—her mineral and fossile wealth recounted, and advantages, more than can be calculated, reaped from the search. Then should we gain the glorious meed of well-earned fame, and the names of Ireland and Irishmen be ranged with others in immortal history.

In order, however, to direct the ardent tempers of Irishmen to the best advantage, it will be needful to inculcate a habit of steady patient investigation in every department of knowledge.

Each department has its barrens and its smiling plains. The barren in mineralogy is system-building. No sooner does the student commence his acquaintance with the surface of the globe, than in all haste he begins the foundation of his edifice: he waits not to chuse

firm ground—reckless on what substratum he builds—fire or water will serve as his foundation. In botany the unprofitable to be shunned is the intemperate pursuit of mere catalogue making. Botanists range all quarters of the globe, and in defiance of toil and danger, return proud of their spoils—and in general, to what purpose? for the empty triumph of having discovered a plant unknown or unobserved before, which perhaps is left afterwards to utter neglect, and to be found only in the barren catalogue. In short the philosophic botanist should study something more than mere nomenclature.

Classical learning too has its barrens. No man can consult the great mass of annotations and collations, which overload the classic authors, without feeling disgust at the emptiness of understanding evident in men, from whose full heads something reasonable might have been expected.

But though these have been pointed out for reprobation, they are to be considered worthy of it only when they are the exclusive objects of pursuit. If connected in the same mind with more extended views, or as the offspring of the drudging narrow mind adopted by those, who from their elevation have a commanding view of all the walks of science, they then are valuable. The mineralogist in search

of arguments to support his system, is accurate and indefatigable in his efforts; he divides and combines; he arranges the objects of his observation in the cabinet of his mind after his favourite plan, and thus if he gains no more, he gains at least a technicality of memory; though his mind may be narrowed by attachment to his own system, still he stores up facts for men of more comprehensive minds, and many facts may be expected from one who ransacks sea and land under the influence of some impulsive preconception. The botanist under like impressions ranges the earth, that he may earn the glorious appellation of an ingenious and indefatigable discoverer, a title, which raises him to a level with the *Vir clariss.* of former days. The classical scholar spends his days in vague conjectures, and in collecting worthless *alibers*, and in disputing about accents, which have gone down the stream of time so far as to be beyond the possibility of being recalled to a decisive discussion. Yet his labours may be useful, inasmuch as he is the pioneer to the man of taste and judgment, and so contributes, unwittingly perhaps, to the interests of literature.

But of the study of antiquity, what shall I say? On this subject I shall probably be considered as unqualified to decide, when I candidly declare my opinion, that *antiquities* seldom present matter sufficient to reward the labour of pursuit. From this I would except the antiquities of the classic nations; and these because they serve to illustrate the history of the human mind, and are more decisive and better attested, than any others. They also give light to some of the

most valuable compositions, that human genius ever presented to the world—valuable not merely in the inferior excellencies of style and manner, but also in the grand and highly important excellence of matter. In fact, classical antiquities and the classic languages are so interwoven, that they are mutually useful and mutually requisite. In pursuing these antiquities, we at the same time make a valuable acquisition in the knowledge of two noble languages, and of the treasures of eloquence and wisdom embalmed in them, through which we refine our taste and strengthen our judgment. We qualify ourselves by means of this knowledge to make an advantageous acquaintance with modern languages, and having the master keys, we can with ease enter into all the allusions to classic subjects, which distinguish and adorn the writings of our best authors, and the speeches of our best orators. But to contrast this—what have we to reward our labours in the search into a language nearly barbarous, and nearly extinct; the language of a people which has left few, we may say, no remains, to prove the early civilization imputed to them?—a language, in which no science was ever taught, the beauties of which are no more, than what are common to the barren dialects of the Eskimaux, or the Laplander?

It will be perceived, I mean the Irish language; and I express my opinion, which, I know, is opposed to that of some of our most respectable members, with a confidence in the candour and kindness of my associates, who, while they firmly maintain their own opinions, will not be offended at the candid declaration of an opposite one.

Classical literature is the only remaining topic for observation.—My subject has compelled me to anticipate a little, and I am fearful of lengthening what has probably appeared too long already. But it would be high injustice to consign to a few words a theme so fertile in topics for just eulogium.

The sciences are indisputably of wondrous benefit to mankind. By them, continents, separated by the unsociable ocean, have become united, and their mutual wants converted into mutual bonds. By them all that contributes to the comfort of life and security of health, has been abundantly furnished. But though contributing largely to the interests and advantages of society, and allowedly requiring ingenuity and capacity in the research, still they are of an inferior order—they rest in mere externals—they do not permanently employ the nobler part of man. This noble pre-eminence is reserved for classic lore, which may be termed a science purely of the mind. Through it the mind is enlarged and strengthened—to it we owe through history that invaluable acquisition—anticipated experience—and, in short, all that information, which enables us to judge of our true interests in all respects.

This may appear a bold assertion; but let us appeal to fact. In cases of emergency, when the councils of a nation labour, to whom will men most readily apply?—To the astronomer, or mathematician, or chemist, or mineralogist? These are but the occasional co-assessors—but the servants of the man whose mind has been enlarged and illuminated by an acquaintance with the accumulated wisdom of the learned

ages. Among ourselves, the persons we see raised to power and precedence, are not the men of science, but those who have distinguished themselves by classical acquirements, by which they have instructed, polished, and enlarged their minds, arranged their thoughts, and improved their taste, and by the joint influence of these, have acquired the talent of presenting the full stores of a well-informed mind in all the force of reasoning, and in the variously-attractive dress of oratorical language.

But it is not in the perishable brilliancy of human talent that we are to look for proofs of this superiority. In the momentous concerns of eternity, when we would advert to that which we esteem the recorded word of eternal wisdom, we must look for access through the portal of classic learning, and it requires but little trouble to point out the necessity of an acquaintance with the learned languages, in order that we may be enabled to form satisfactory opinions for ourselves, on those important points at issue in the world.

I shall dismiss the subject by briefly summing up my opinion thus:—If I were to consult the interests of an individual, I would urge him to devote his powers to the cultivation of some one of the sciences—if the interests of the present age, and ages yet to come, I would elevate his view to the illustrious critics of later times, who have drunk deep of literature, and have devoted all their powers, both natural and acquired, to the illustration of subjects the most interesting to man; who by their unparalleled exertions, have facilitated our access to all the interest-

ing compositions of antiquity, where in are found instructive descriptions of man in various stages, and delineations of human actions full of admonition. In short, they have led us to those writings, which contain all that human reason, un-

assisted by revelation, could dictate, to repress the evil passions, to inspire an honourable and well-directed ambition, to point to profitable objects of pursuit and study, and to inculcate the soundest principles of wisdom and policy.

(For the *Monthly Museum.*)

OBSERVATIONS ON THE EDITORS OF SHAKSPEARE.

THOUGH every real lover of the Drama must applaud the zeal, and respect the motives, that induced Dr. Johnson, and a few others, to undertake the revision of Shakspeare's text, it will probably be found on examination, that to a reader of a good understanding, capable of tracing the spirit, and comprehending the sense of the poet, very few expressions will seem obscure.

Critics and commentators have increased, during the present age, in an amazing degree—their labours, however useful, appear to be guided by different views—with some, the most general motive is profit—with others, a pure disinterested wish of extending knowledge and information, by giving the works of their favourite author a more unbounded circulation; and several of them seem to have no other object in contemplation, than a mere idle desire of emerging into notice, by linking their names with that of some celebrated writer.

Several of Shakspeare's editors are of the last description—many of them men of no talent, possessed of no genius, attempted the task in the prospect of obtaining an obscure situation in the temple of

fame, by clinging to the illustrious bard of Avon.

Amongst the modern commentators, our countryman, Malone, seems the most worthy of attention. Not satisfied with explaining difficult phrases, and illustrating ancient customs, he has accompanied his edition with a clear concise account of the British stage—and far from despising the opinions of his predecessors, his readers will find that he has preserved even the observations of unknown critics.

Enough has been done—the comments are already too large for any reasonable purpose, especially when they wander from their natural channel, and introduce topics quite irrelevant.

Had the editors been less attentive to trifles, and more anxious about the great leading points—had they scattered through their notes occasional remarks, pointing out the beauties, and tracing the characters of the different performances, it would appear more judicious.

Some are of opinion, that the notes are rather an injury to Shakspeare, for by drawing off the attention from the main part of the subject, the fire and spirit of the different passages are unnoticed.

T. F.

CRITICAL CATALOGUE OF NEW BOOKS.

Marion of Drynagh; a Tale of Erin, in two Cantos; by MATTHEW WELD HARTSTONGE, Esq. LON. LONGMAN, HURST, REES, &c. 1814.

THE family of De Bernival, now Barnewall, settled in Ireland, shortly after the Saxon invasion probably in the reign of King John — Their principal seat of residence was at Drynmagh, or Drumnah castle, in the barony of Newcastle, and county of Dublin, until the reign of James I. One of the lords of this family was married to the daughter and heiress of Thomas Fant, or L'enfant, lord of Ardee. Upon this historical superstructure the romance now before us is founded. Previously to commencing an inquiry into its contents, we pause a moment to notice an inaccuracy in its title. It is improperly styled a tale of Erin; when in truth it is a tale of the Saxons in Erin. Every personage, every circumstance, every allusion is Saxon. To many this may seem the overstrained comment of a too fastidious critic; an idle cavil about words. It is not so. In an Irish tale we look for what is purely Irish, unalloyed by any foreign admixture; we expect to be led into the bowers of our real ancestors, not into the gloomy castles of a feudal chieftain.

The time of the story is laid in the most illustrious age of chivalry, the period of the crusade, under the gallant Cœur de Lion. Several noblemen from Ireland followed his standard; among the rest, Reginald de Bernival preferred a life of hard-earned glory in foreign regions, under his royal master, to peaceful security, and the endearing smiles of an only daughter at

VOL. II.

home. But where the voice of love is unheard in the call of glory, the throbbings of paternal affection must pass unnoticed. Marion, the peerless flower of Drynagh, was betrothed to a young neighbouring chieftain, named Desmond. He also attended the King, hoping to gain more favour with his mistress, by rescuing the holy sepulchre from the pollution of the infidels, and by protecting her father's life in the fray of battle, than by the bands of amorous indolence in her presence. The achievements of the hero of English history form a natural, almost a necessary episode. Reginald is slain in the wars, and after performing a due number of gallant feats, Desmond returns home to claim the object of his love. He arrives safely in the neighbourhood of Dublin, and is hastening to the goal of his labours, when an accidental scuffle between some of his followers, and those of Tyrrel, lord of Castleknock, affords an opportunity to this latter chieftain, who had been an unsuccessful suitor to Marion, of attacking his rival at an advantage, and putting him to death. A page alone escapes to bear the tidings of this unhappy event to Drynagh. A heroine of romance has but one choice to make on such a termination of her love; she must die or take the veil. Marion chose the former. She and Desmond are buried, though not laid to rest together; for at stated intervals, his ghost rides about the country according to prescribed custom, in all due formalities, to frighten, as we suppose, the poor potatoe diggers, for no other reason is alleged for it.

This poem seems to be the child

Y

of wealth and ease. It appears to be written to amuse a leisure hour, and published, because the author could afford the means of printing a trifle in an elegant form. It offers little to the critic, little to the lover of poetry. In its versification, it exhibits a sickly compound of the ravings of Southey, and the monotony of Walter Scott. The following extracts, taken at random, will afford as good a specimen of the whole production, as could have been done by any selection:

How noble the banquet once spread in
yon tower!

And how sweetly the charmer she sung
in her bower!

While murmuring gently the soft flow-
ing rill

Was heard in the distance of Drymnaugh's
lone hill:

His proud banner De Bernval's battle-
ments crown'd,

And his turrets in sullen magnificence
frown'd.

Lord Reginald, a lofty baron of France,
As ever bore brand, or yet wielded a
lance,

Of illustrious line of ancestry vain,
He traced his descent from the high
Charlemaine;

Untainted his blood, and distinguished
his name,

The hero was first in the annals of fame.
When hapless Erin sought the hand

Of Henry fam'd Plantagenet:

Proudly a kingdom's choice he met;

Pembroke led on his valiant hand,
Brave Reginald then hail'd the emerald
land.

Now he who ne'er had crouched to foe
Fell beneath Love's almighty bow;

His heart resigned to beauty rare,
Sir Wolfran was his only heir:

Marion, the lovely and the mild,
Is now Lord Wolfran's only child.

L'Enfant was the maternal name
Which merg'd in proud De Bernval's
fame:

Of Drymnaugh's fame old legends tell,
But now the castle's called "Plus-
Belle—

"Plus-Belle," from her the lovely fair
Marion, De Bernval's honoured heir.

O! Plus-Belle is a pleasant place
In July noon, or morn,

From covert-hair the stag to chase
When rings the hunter's horn.

Where o'er yon heights of Montpelle*
Fleet stag bounds stoutly yell,

And horsemen spur so gallantly,
Oft there did Diamond proudly ride,

With Marion mounted at his side,
From turrets of Plus-Belle.

Then was there hosting† on Tara's wide
plain,

Knight service was done for this tower
and domain;

The mail-coated archers in gallant array,
How glorious the feats in proud chival-
ry's day!

The arrow then twang'd from the good
bow of yew,

The lance in its rest, forth the scymitar
flew;

For tilt and for tourney, at court or in
war,

Was young Desmond beloved and dread-
ed afar:

Beyond compare this castle rare,
Each haughty foe repelling;

Her lover there to guard his fair,
The beauteous Marion's dwelling.

She was in sooth a beauteous girl,
To mate with proudest Norman earl;

Mild innocence you well might spy,
And genius in her sparkling eye;

Her jetty brow, her raven hair,
Her smile, like smile of morn, was fair;

Her neck the vallied lily shows,
Her cheek the blush of mountain rose;

Born to enchant and charm each eye,
Her beauty and her modesty:

Then wonder not the tale I tell,
That all named Marion, La Plus Belle!

Old crones relate, at the eve of Saint
John

A coal-black war-horse champing
comes on:

The proud steed curvetting a combatant
knight,

In armour array'd and panting for fight;
Pricking in haste on Eekar's plain.

The quondam lord of this domain.
When bells have chim'd the midnight
hour,

Lord Desmond seeks his castle-tower:
Thrice he rides the tow'r around;

Thrice he mounts the moated mound:
Thrice he strikes the portal wall;

Heard thrice three shouts in Desmond
hall.

* A mountain in the county of Dublin. It is
guilt in the text as it is usually pronounced.

† Hosting is a term peculiar to Ireland; it means
a feudal assemblage of the lord's dependants, some-
what similar to "the gathering" of the Celtic
clans.

“ Welcome, Lord Desmond, from the tomb!

Back to his tower Lord Desmond's come.

Welcome him that welcome may,

The fiends now keep their holy day!”

On the central tower, in stature and mould,

The lord baron seems a Titan of old;

A burst of loud thunder the storm then broke,

The phantom dissolves in a column of smoke;

While in molten shower, like Etna's own fire,

The castle and towers are seen to expire.

The spectre, arm'd from helm to heel,

Now seeks the turrets of Plus-Belle;

Accoutred like knight for combat fell,

With spear of gold and glaive of steel.

Lastly the spright, in his armour as when,

Rides off to the knolls called “ Fairly hill's green:”

He strikes with a spear, he enters a door,

And never again the bold warrior's seen,

The hill closes up, and appears as before;

But I've heard the scene's repeated anon,

Once in each year, on the eve of Saint John.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS FOR AUGUST.

BRITISH WORKS PUBLISHED.

ANTIQUITIES.

The History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey; begun by the late Rev. Owen Manning, and continued by Wm. Bray, esq. With a map and 37 engravings. Vol. the 3d. fol. 5l. 5s.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

An Introduction to the Study of Bibliography; by Thos. Hartwell Horne. Illustrated by numerous engravings on wood, containing specimens of early printing, fac-similes of the books of images, and monograms or marks used by the first printers. 2 vols. 8vo. 1l. 2s.

A general Catalogue of valuable and rare old Books, now on sale by Longman, Hurst, and Co. Paternoster-row. Part I. 1s. 6d.

A miscellaneous Catalogue of Books in the various classes of Literature, with a collection of engravings and prints for 1814, now selling by T. Albin, Spalding. 1s. 6d.

Catalogue of a miscellaneous collection of Books, new and second hand, on sale by John and Arthur Aikin, 61, Cornhill. 2s. 6d.

Catalogue of Books in various languages, now selling by David Spear, 2, Southampton-street. 8vo. 2s.

EDUCATION.

The Classical English Letter-writer, or Epistolary Selections; designed to improve young persons in the art of letter-writing, and in the principles of Virtue and Piety. With introductory rules on epistolatory composition, and biographical notices of the writers from whom the letters are selected. 12mo. 4s. 6d.

Key to Bonnycastle's Trigonometry,

containing solutions and references to all the problems. By Griffith Davies, teacher of mathematics. 8vo. 5s.

The English Pronouncing Spelling Book; on a plan entirely new; by Thos. West. 1s. 6d.

Animated Nature; or Elements of the Natural History of Animals; illustrated by short histories and anecdotes, for the use of schools; by the Rev. W. Bingley, F. L. S. 12mo. 6s.

HISTORY.

A Historical View of the Philippine Islands, from the Spanish of Martinez de Zuniga, with a Map of the Islands: translated by John Maver, Esq. 2 vols. 8vo. 1l. 1s.

A Narrative of the late Revolution in Holland; by G. W. Chad. 8vo. 9s. 6d.

MISCELLANIES.

The Family Magazine, No. 2, price 1s. A new Picture of Paris; or the Stranger's Guide to the French Metropolis, accurately describing the public establishments, remarkable edifices, places of amusement; also, a description of the environs of Paris; by Edward Planch, Esq. 18mo. 6s. 6d.

London Tales; or, Reflective Portraits, calculated for the retirement of summer in the country, or the leisure moments in town; by Mrs. Roche. 2 vols. 12mo. 7s.

Remarks on Madame de Staël's Work on Germany. In four letters; addressed to Sir James Mackintosh. 8vo. 6s.

An Essay on Genius; or, the Philosophy of Literature; by John Duncan. 8vo. 7s. 6d.

Edinburgh Review, or Critical Journal. No. 45. 6s.

Primum Mobile, with Theses to the Theory and Canons for Practice; by Di-

daens Placidus de Titus. Translated from the Latin, by John Cooper. No. 1. 8vo. 1s. 6d.

The Flowers of Wit; or a choice collection of Bon Mots, both ancient and modern; by the Rev. Henry Kett. 8 vols. 12mo. 14s.

Apparitions; or the Mystery of Ghosts, Hobgoblins, and Haunted Houses, developed by Joseph Taylor. 12mo. 5s. 3d.

England's Triumph; being an Account of the Rejoicings, &c. in London and elsewhere. 8vo. 7s.

NOVELS AND ROMANCES.

Waverly; or, 'Tis Sixty Years since; a novel. 3 vols. 12mo. 1l. 1s.

POETRY.

The Mount of Olives; or, the Resurrection and Ascension; a poem, in continuation of Calvary; by Mrs. Dixon. 8vo. 4s.

The Cloud Messenger of Calidasa; translated by H. H. Wilson, esq. of Calcutta. 8vo. 7s.

The Excursion; being a portion of the Rêcluse, a poem; by Wm. Wordsworth. 4to. 5l. 2s.

Cona; or the Vale of Clwyd; with other poems. 12mo. 7s. 6d.

Sonnets, Odes, and other Poems; by the late Mr. Charles Lefley; together with a short account of his Life and Writings; by William Linley, esq. 8vo. 7s. 6d.

Jack Junk; or, the Sailor's Cruise on Shore; a humorous poem, in four cantos; with a Glossary; by the Author of the Sailor Boy, &c. &c. Ireland; with coloured plates. 12mo. 5s.

The New Eldorado; or the Triumphs of Elba; a satirical poem; by Matthew Rag, poet laureat of the Island of Elba. 12mo. 4s. 6d.

The Velvet Cushion. 8vo. 5s.

The Olive Branch; a poem by M. Crawford. 8vo. 4s. 6d.

Poems and Translations, by the Rev. J. Bull, M. A. 8vo. 7s.

Lara; a tale; Jaqueline; a tale. 8vo. 7s. 6d.

Selections from the popular poetry of the Hindoos, arranged and translated by T. D. Broughton, esq. 8vo. 7s. 6d.

POLITICAL ECONOMY.

A Treatise on the Wealth, Power, and Resources of the British Empire in every quarter of the World. Illustrated by copious Statistical Tables on a new plan; by P. Colquhoun, L. L. D. 4to. 2s. 2s.

SCIENCE.

A General Description of Shells, ar-

anged according to the Linnæan System; by Wm. Wood, F. R. S. L. S. No. 4. To be continued monthly. 8vo. 5s.

Experiments and Observations on the Atomic Theory and Electrical Phenomena; by Wm. Higgins, esq. Professor of Chemistry to the Dublin Society. 8vo. 6s.

THEOLOGY.

Commentaries on the Law of Moses, by the late Sir John David Michaelis, K. P. S. F. R. S. Professor of Philosophy in the University of Göttingen.—Translated from the German by the Rev. Alex. Smith, D. D. 4 vols. 8vo. 2l. 8s.

Sermons on the Duties of Man, and on other subjects, by the Rev. Robert Stevens, one of the preachers at the asylum and Magdalen, and Lecturer of St. Margaret's, Westminster. 8vo. 12s.

Reliquiæ sacræ: sive seculorum fere jamii perditorum secundi tertique seculi fragmenta, quæ supersunt. Ad codices MSS. recensuit, notique illustravit Martinus Josephus Routh, S. T. P. 2 vols. 8vo. 1l. 10s.

VOYAGES AND TRAVELS.

Travels in various parts of Europe, Asia, and Africa, by Edward Daniel Clarke, L. L. D. the third part; illustrated by numerous engravings. 4to. 4l. 14s. 6d.

A Voyage to Terra Australis, in 1801, 2, and 3, in the Investigator, and subsequently in the Porpoise and Cumberland schooner; by Mat. Flinders, commander of the Investigator. 2 vols. royal 4to. and Atlas fol. 8l. 8s.

The Traveller in Africa; containing some account of the Antiquities, Natural Curiosities, and Inhabitants of such parts as have been explored by Europeans: with a Map; by Priscilla Wakefield. 12mo. 5s. 6d.

A Tour through the Island of Elba; by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, bart. with 8 Engravings. 4to. 2l. 7s.

BRITISH WORKS IN THE PRESS.

Speedily will be published, elegantly printed in 8vo, price 10s. in boards, a new edition, with additions never before published, of the English Works of Roger Ascham, Preceptor to Queen Elizabeth: containing, 1. Report and Discourse of the Affairs and State of Germany, and the Emperor Charles his Court. 2. Toxophilus, or the School of Shooting, with the original Dedication to King Henry VIII. 3. The Schoolmaster. 4. Dedication to Queen Elizabeth of (a work which he appears to

have meditated, but never published) the Lives of Saul and David; now first printed from the original MS. in the Publisher's possession. 3. Familiar Letters. To which will be prefixed the Life of the Author by Dr. Johnson, with Notes by Dr. Campbell, &c.

An Account of a Voyage to Abyssinia, and Travels in the Interior of that Country, executed under the Orders of the British Government, in the years 1809 and 1810; in which will be included an Account of the Portuguese Settlements on the Eastern Coast of Africa, visited in the course of the voyage; a concise summary of the late occurrences in Arabia Felix; and some particulars respecting the Aboriginal African Tribes extending from Mozambique to the borders of Egypt, together with vocabularies of their respective languages; by Henry Salt, Esq. F. R. S. &c.

This Work will be illustrated with a large sheet Map of Abyssinia, and several Charts laid down from original surveys and Observations by the Author; together with twenty-seven Engravings and Etchings, executed by Chas. Heath, Esq. from drawings taken on the spot. A few copies will be printed on imperial paper, with first impressions of the plates.

In a large volume, crown 8vo. the Poetical Register for 1810—1811, being the eighth volume of the work. This volume includes more than three hundred original and fugitive Poems, nearly one half of which are original, and above two hundred criticisms upon poetical and dramatic productions, published during 1810 and 1811.

The volume for 1808 and 1809 (lately published, price 12s.) contains 119 original Poems, and 169 fugitive Poems, by eminent Authors, and likewise 170 criticisms upon poetical and dramatic Works, published during the years 1808 and 1809. Also may be had, the six preceding volumes, price 3l. or any separate volume. The six volumes contain nearly 1500 poetical compositions, and more than 500 criticisms.

The Noble Histories of Kyng Arthur and of certeyn of his Knightes. A reprint of the *Morte D'Arthur*.

The Text of this edition will be a faithful Transcript from the Wynkynde Worde edition, in the possession of Earl Spencer, with an Introduction and notes, tending to illustrate the history and bibliography of the Work; as well as the fictions of the Round Table Chivalry

in general; by John Louis Goldsmid. The impression will be strictly limited to 250 on post 4to. and 50 large paper; and as a considerable portion of the impression is already subscribed for, it is requested that those who wish to obtain copies will favour the Publishers with their names as early as possible.

When it is considered that the first two editions of this Book are totally unattainable, that the third printed by Copland, and the fourth by East, may be classed among the scarcest productions of British Typography, and that even the wretched and mutilated quarto of 1634 is of rare occurrence and considerable pecuniary value, the editor feels confident that the present republication will be received as a desideratum by the admirers of our ancient English Literature.

The Poems of Thomas Stanley, Esq. Reprinted from the original edition, which is now exceedingly rare. Only 150 printed in Foolscap 8vo. to correspond with Raleigh's Poems. Also Translations from Anacreon, Bion, Moschus, &c.; by the same Author, from the edition of 1651.

The Poetical Exercises at vacant Hours of James the Sixth, King of Scotland; edited by J. P. Gillies, Esq. To be printed in small quarto, and the number to be limited to 150, of which 130 are already subscribed for.

The following Works of George Wither, each printed in a duodecimo volume: 1. Fidelity; reprinted from the edition of 1633. 2. Faire Virtue, the Mistress of Philarete; reprinted from the edition of 1633. 3. Abuses Stript and Whipt. (Satires.) 4. Hymns and Songs of the Church. 5. The Psalms of David.

Prefaces will be given to each of these publications; and the impression limited to 100 copies.

Speedily will be published, in 8vo. elegantly printed, Repertorium Bibliographicum: Some account of the most public and private Libraries, with Bibliographical Notices, Anecdotes of eminent Collectors, Booksellers, Printers, &c. &c. Embellished with Portraits of the late John Townley, Esq. Anthony Morris Storer, Esq. Rev. Dr. Gossett, &c. &c. and other Plates. To which will be prefixed, a Dialogue in the Shades, between William Caxton, a modern Bibliomaniac, and the Author. By the late Wm. Wynken, Clerk, a descendant of the illustrious Wynken de

Worde. Printed for Wm. Clarke, New Bond-street.

Arthur of Little Britain, by Lord Berners. The subscribers for the reprint of this curious Work (of which only 300 were printed, viz. 175 on post quarto, and 25 on royal) with the Plates illuminated, are respectfully informed, that their copies will be delivered according to the order of subscription, as fast as they are received from the colourers. The extreme care and peculiar talent which the execution of them requires, and the difficulty of finding artists competent to the task, are the causes which have occasioned and will occasion, a greater delay in the delivery than the Publishers had at all calculated upon. The subscription price of the Small Paper illuminated Copies is eight guineas in extra boards. Printed for White, Cochran, and Co. Fleet-street.

Mr. Ford, of Manchester, is engaged in preparing a Catalogue of his extensive collection of Books, the first part of which will be published in a few weeks; comprising the Historical and Poetical Classes, a miscellaneous collection of valuable illustrated and early printed Works, and Books of Prints.—The remaining parts will be proceeded on without delay, and will appear in the course of the present year.

Mr. Ford has to dispose of a few copies of the *Restituta*, as far as published, and the British Bibliographer.

The Rev. James Kidd, professor of Oriental Languages in the University of Marischal College, Aberdeen, has nearly ready for the press, a work on the Trinity; the plan entirely new.

The Rev. Wm. Anderson has in the press, a Sketch of the History of Romanoff, the reigning Family of Russia, with a brief account of the present state of that empire.

Mr. Nichols' History of Leicestershire will, in a few months, receive an appropriate completion, by elaborate indexes compiled under his inspection.

Picturesque Views of public edifices in Paris, with appropriate letter press, will soon appear, in medium quarto; containing about twenty Views drawn by Messrs. Testard and Segard, and engraved by Mr. Rosenberg.

Mr. John Faithorn, formerly surgeon in the East India Company's service, will soon publish, Facts and Observations on Liver Complaints and Bilious Affections in general; deduced from long practice in various climates, and illustrated by cases.

Sermons selected from the manus-

cripts of the late Rev. Samuel Palmer, of Hackney, are printing in an octavo volume.

The Codex Alexandrinus is about to be printed in fac-simile, by order of the House of Commons, at the public expence.

Mr. Myers, of the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, has in the press, a Practical Treatise on finding the Latitude and Longitude at Sea; translated from the French of M. de Roussel, with additional tables and other improvements.

The Rev. William Bingley, already distinguished by his literary labours, has undertaken the History of Hampshire, and is pursuing it with assiduity.

Mrs. Hanway, author of *Ellinor*, &c. has in the press, *Christabella*, the Maid of Rouen, a story founded on fact.

Baron Daldorf has nearly ready for publication, in four volumes, *Castle de Courry*, or the Vicissitudes of Revolutionary Commotion.

A lady has in the press, a work on the Theology and Mythology of the Heathens, in a duodecimo volume, with several plates.

The Exile, a Russian poem, written in England, and translated from the original MS. of the author, who fell in the battle before Dresden, will soon appear.

A new edition of the *Defence of the Reformation*, by the Rev. John Claude, edited by Mr. John Townsend, of Bermondsey, is expected to appear next month, in two octavo volumes.

An edition of Bishop Beveridge's Sermons is printing in octavo, and intended to be published in monthly volumes.

The place of IRISH LITERATURE presents a perfect blank. Many causes combine to the depression under which it labours. Though we cannot here delay to investigate these, we must pause to deplore their effects. The connection between literature and patriotism is so close, that the depression of the one is the never-falling index to the decline of the other. When Irish patriotism mourns over the ruins of the Irish press, she but rehearses the scene of her own approaching dissolution. These thoughts may be considered by many but the forebodings of a gloomy imagination, the visions of a disordered brain, not corrected by the dictates of waking reason. If they be but the children of fancy, with what joy shall we exclaim, on reflecting on our present melancholy anticipations, "How glad I am to find them but a dream."

1 JY 59



Morning Dress.

Engraved for the Dublin Monthly Museum

FASHIONS FOR THE PRESENT SEASON.

EXPLANATION OF THE PRINT OF FASHION.

MORNING Dress of jaconet muslin, laced in the body and sleeves, and finished round the bottom of the skirt by an embroidery in coloured silks. A small front of plain muslin fastens at the bosom over the cased one; the former is also ornamented with embroidery. No lady, on first seeing this elegant dress, could possibly surmise the purpose for which it was designed, that of enabling a lady to suckle her own child: it is, however, so contrived, as to allow a lady to act the part of a nurse, without discomposing her dress in the smallest degree; and the moment the pleasing office is over, a single pin leaves her again in the most elegant style of morning costume. Head-dress, small lace cap.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON FASHION AND DRESS.

Since the publication of our last Number, we have to notice an almost endless variety in the walking costume.

Mantles of lace and muslin, French silk handkerchiefs, clear and jaconet muslin pelisses, antin, sarinet, and muslin spencers, and high dresses of French washing silk, or Indian chintz, are all worn in the walking costume. The last mentioned are the latest introduced, and there is more novelty in their form than in any of the others.

In lace mantles there is no variation from last month; in muslin they are worn extremely short, either square or round, and several with small hoods; they are trimmed

only with lace. Pelisses have suffered an entire revolution in their form, they are now all made cased in the back and sleeves, if of sarinet, but if muslin, they are cased all through the body; the casings are three together, as small as they can possibly be made, and there is a distance of two inches between them. The sleeves are done in the same manner.

Pelisses are made up to the neck, and notwithstanding the heat of the weather, they have in general a cased collar, which is edged round, as is also the ends of the sleeves, and the bottom of the pelisse, with lace. The waists are worn as short as possible, and the skirts fuller than they were for some time.

The observations upon pelisses are equally applicable to spencers, except that in clear muslin spencers narrow letting-in lace is substituted for the casings, which has a much prettier and less formal effect.

The high chintz dresses are, for the street, of a very small pattern; but for the walking costume small pattern flowered chintz is universal; they are made cased in the body and sleeves, and are worn up to the neck, but they have no collar; a blond lace, ruff-edged with narrow ribband to correspond with the predominant colour of the chintz, is substituted for it. The dress, which fastens in front, is trimmed down with silk ornaments of a very novel form, and three rows of scollops, placed one above another round the bottom, are ornamented with a light narrow silk fringe to correspond with the pre-

dominant colour in the dress.— These dresses are elegant, simple, and extremely well calculated for the undress of a gentlewoman; if there is any thing to be said against them, it may be perhaps objected that they appear rather too warm for the time of year.

French washing silks, as they are called, are made in precisely the same way, except that the trimming, which is a silk fancy trimming to correspond with the dress, is extremely expensive. They are in high estimation.

French bonnets, made of satin, sarsnet, or willow, literally loaded with artificial flowers, are in the highest estimation for the walking costume.

In the carriage costume, spencers of entire white lace over pale pink, azure, or straw-colour, are very general: they are composed of plain net-lace about a nail in width, sewed very full to a letting-in lace of not quite an inch in breadth; the sleeves are made in the same manner, and are finished at the wrist by a narrow lace. The spencer, which is high in the back, has a second front of entire broad lace, which falls over as a cape behind, and is thrown back; it reaches nearly half-a-quarter below the waist, and finishes in a point.

White satin spencers also are still in high estimation for the carriage costume; but the most truly elegant pelisse at present is the French pelisse; it is made in white satin, the upper part of the back is a plain piece which goes just between the shoulders, the lower part is very full. This pelisse may be called a three-quarter dress, it is not so low as a frock, nor does it come up to the neck: the points of the dress are so contrived as to meet in the middle of the back,

and form a cape, which is certainly pretty and most tasteful; it is rounded behind, and falls over the shoulders, and the pelisse either meets or flies back in front at pleasure; long plain sleeves, except at top, which has three pieces of satin let in, each piece about half-a-quarter in length, and nearly the same in breadth, they are finished round with a narrow but extremely elegant silk trimming. The pelisse is all cut round in scollops, which are finished with the lightest and most beautiful silk fringe. There has not been any thing introduced in the carriage costume for a considerable time at once so elegant and so becoming as this pelisse.

Small French hats of white satin, ornamented, not loaded, with flowers, are very general in the carriage costume; but the Princess of Wales's hat is in the highest estimation; it is worn in all the fashionable colours for the month, but it is more elegant in white satin than any thing else. The crown is oval, and the front, which is extremely novel and becoming, is composed of three rows of scollops one above another, which are edged with real or mock pearl; two ostrich feathers fall over to the left side.

The principal novelty in the morning costume is the cased bodices, which, though novel, are not new; they are a revived fashion.— The chintz, that we have described, are equally an in and outdoor costume, but jaconet muslin is the most universal; and the lace mania so often mentioned, is not at all decreased; on the contrary, our fair fashionables become daily more ingenious in the manner of using it; besides the double, and sometimes treble flowers of lace, there is generally a quantity of let,

ting-in down the front; or if this is not the case, a small apron cut in scollops, edged with a narrow lace, has, generally speaking, superseded the lace ruff or frills, and collars even of lace are very little worn.

Washing silks are very general for the morning costume; we shall describe one which is extremely pretty, though in the days of our grave grandmothers it would have been looked on as too childish for *belles* who were out of their hanging sleeves: it is a high frock, which laces behind, and comes up to the throat, where it is finished by a row of scollops, edged with fine narrow lace; a net long-sleeve is ornamented by a cuff to correspond, and three rows of scollops edged with lace finishes it round the skirt. A French apron of white lace scolloped round, and trimmed with a broad lace put on very full, the pockets trimmed with a narrow lace to correspond with that on the dress; and a lace *bib*, which forms a very pretty front over the silk one; the bib is as low as a frock bosom, it is an entire piece of lace, and has an elegant effect.

In dinner dresses we again meet with cased bodies; frocks now are all made with them, but they differ from the morning dresses by being single casings, they are also as narrow as they can be made.—Waists are shorter than ever, and the dresses fall as much as usual off the shoulders. The sleeve highest in estimation is a triple epaulet of lace; the bosoms of frocks are not cut or slipped in any way, but formed by the casings to fit the shape in the most becoming manner.

Rich worked muslin over coloured slips is the highest in estimation.
VOL. II.

mation for dinner dresses, and they are trimmed in every possible way with lace. *Sarsnets* are however worn by many. Ribband trimmings have declined very much, but fringe and silk fancy trimmings are universal.

For full dress, crape and white lace are universal. Coloured slips are now worn only for dinner dresses. In crape, white is the most predominant; but azure, the colour of the wild primrose, and evening primrose, are also very general. We have only one novelty to announce to our fair readers in full dress, and that is the *Angouleme* drapery, which is composed of white patent net, and is worn over a white satin slip; it is a cased frock body, with a triple epaulet sleeve; the sleeve is composed of very broad and rich lace; the drapery is open at the left side, it is about a quarter of a yard shorter than the gown, and is sloped a little on the left side, but not rounded, but on the right side it is rounded so as to display the satin slip beneath it very much; the drapery is edged with a broad and rich lace, and two flounces of lace are placed also at some distance one above the other, the triple flounce of lace, and the fulness with which it is put on, have rather a heavy effect, but it is magnificent. The slip is either cut round the bottom in scollops, which are ornamented with fringe, or finished with embroidery. This dress is certainly deficient in simplicity, but it is magnificent, tasteful, and above all fashionable in the highest degree.

The hair continues to be dressed in the style described in our last Number.

Artificial flowers and light silver ornaments are in high estimation in full dress. Coloured stones are

apparently declining: small pearl sprigs, which are just introduced, being, after diamonds, most worn.

Ostrich feathers appear at present, as well as turbans, to be confined to matronly *belles*.

In jewellery there is nothing new to announce for full dress; in undress, white cornelian is universal.

Slippers of leather or jane to correspond with the dress, have superseded half-boots for the promenade costume. Half-boots of strong silk with lace behind, and corresponding in colour with the

dress, are universally adopted for the carriage costume.

Dress slippers are now made either of white kid or silk: they have no rosette, but are ornamented instead with an embroidery either in silk or silver.

Fans continue the same as last month.

Fashionable colours for the month are evening primrose, azure, straw colour, pea and grass green, and the pink of the white rose; it may be proper to observe, that white satin is now tinged with the latter colour.

AMNESTICS, OR THE ART OF FORGETTING.

(To the Editor of the Monthly Museum.)

SIR,

Lady Morgan, in her late patriotic composition, on which, by the bye, Mr. Editor, your reviewing committee have been unreasonably severe, has the following passage—"I have no objection to bestow a little of the professor's *mnemonics* upon my countrymen; kindness and attention, whatever direction it takes, will never be thrown away upon them. But, perhaps, in good policy, the first lesson you teach the Irish, should be the ART OF FORGETFULNESS."

It made me not a little vain to find an art I had long and zealously laboured to improve, recommended in such high terms by a person of undoubted literary talent. On reading it, I immediately formed the resolution of committing to paper the results of my studies, not without a considerable share of self condemnation, for having so long withheld from the public a discovery of such general utility. For though this ingenious writer applies it only to a single

case, in which, however, I agree with her in conceiving it peculiarly applicable, yet my superior knowledge of its advantages, confirmed by long experience, has convinced me that all persons, both in public life, and private society, may be equally benefitted by it; and if it is not so generally practised, or so highly estimated, as it ought, the neglect must be attributed solely to its not having been yet simplified and reduced to a system easy to be acquired, and easily applicable to all times and circumstances.

I hope that neither this title, nor the substance of this essay, will lead any one to conclude that any thing in it is intended to derogate from the fame, or depreciate the merits of the illustrious and ever to be remembered personage, who has brought to perfection a science, akin to mine in substance, though opposite in title. Far from it: his fame, and that of the noble science which his labours have immortalized, rest on a basis that equally

rets at defiance the force of the reasoner, and the side-wind breath of the capacious sneerer. No, Sir! as long as children build card-houses—as long as little misses talk gibberish* at boarding-schools,

* I know not whether it be necessary to explain the meaning of this word; however, as its proper explication is not to be met with in any of the common dictionaries, and as those ladies who have not had the good fortune to enjoy the pleasures of a public education, may be ignorant of it, and also, as the initiated will retrace with pleasure the golden period of idleness, tricks, and tattling, I shall give a concise scientific account of it, for all their benefit—

“Indoctæ discant, et ament meminisse peritæ.”

“Let misses learn, and matrons recollect.”

Gibberish is an art of speaking devised for the mutual communication of sentiment among the initiated, easily understood by those who have the key, but wholly unintelligible to all others.—There are two principal dialects. The first and simplest is formed by affixing to the end of every word, or sometimes of every syllable in the word, the addition of *bus*, or *ibus*, when it ends with a consonant. Thus, if a young lady wishes to communicate to her fellow-student the joyful intelligence of having escaped the repetition of a task, the study of which she had postponed the evening before for an hour at romps, a delightful little game of push-pin, or the still more delightful last volume of the new novel, until bed-time came upon her unawares—were she to say in plain English, “Kitty, I have scone’d my task,” she runs the risk of being over-heard and over-hauled by the sharp-eared governess. She therefore translates it into gibberish, and all is well, thus—Kitty-*bus* I-*bus* have-*ibus* scone’d-*ibus* my-*bus* task-*ibus*. This dialect, however, is only for novices. The higher orders, or *professed*, use a more difficult cypher, yet equally simple, though far more unintelligible. It is constructed merely by inserting, after every vowel in every word, the letter *g* (hard) with the vowel repeated. Example—Kitty says,—“These dagancicing magastegeer hugas aga vegerygy nigice leggy.” Paulina Octavia Angustina answers, “Igi wi-

as long as country almanacks continue to be receptacles for charades and rebuses—as long as the citizens of Dublin mistake invention for improvement, and novelty for knowledge—

“Semper honos nomenque tuum, lan-desque manebunt.”

“His honor, name, and praises still shall bloom.”

The professor and I, though by different courses, pursue the same end. The necessary result of both our systems is the stagnation of intellect, and the eradication of knowledge. He puzzles the understanding by nonsense, while I stupify it by oblivion. He, like a skilful bankrupt, baffles his creditors, by confusing the accounts; I wipe away all the items with a sponge. He performs by substitution what I accomplish by obliteration. His system acts like the suspension of the *habeas corpus* in a free state, which wears out the enemy to loyalty, and good order, and non-improvement, and so-forth, by a tedious process of incarceration; mine resembles the quicker, though not more effectual arret of the despot, who uses without ceremony the gibbet or the bow-string. His resembles the labyrinth, in which the victim wanders in an interminable maze, till he is completely bewildered without hope of extrication; mine may be compared to the Barathrum, or condemned pit, where the convict terminates his existence by a single plunge.—But to proceed.

The art, or to use a word more

ish Igi wegere dagancicing wigith higim togo chagurch. Then both burst out into a laugh, or if too near the seat of war, a titter, and enjoy their little joke unknown to all but the coterie.—Corollary—Dactyls, or the Art of Speaking on the Fingers, is universally exploded from all seminaries of character.

sued to the subject, the science of forgetting, has been partially practised both in public and private for many years. Kings and rulers, though unacquainted with the theory, have at all times made use of it with the happiest effects. We read that Thrasybulus, the Athenian, terminated the civil broils that had so long distracted Athens by an Amnesty, which induced all those whose former conduct had rendered them obnoxious, to acquiesce in the new order of things, so that he established the authority of his own faction, and then at his leisure wreaked his vengeance on every individual who had incurred his hatred or suspicion. Many of our ancient monarchs possessed this talent. On attaining the crown of England, William the Norman's memory totally failed him as to his promise of governing according to the ancient laws of the country. The Henry's and the Edward's were equally gifted with forgetfulness, as is testified by the numerous confirmations of the magna charta requisite to refresh their memories as to the existence of such a restriction on their authority. But the greatest proficient among them in this science was John, of whom his brother Richard left this famous memorial, "that he wished he could as easily forget John's offences, as John would his kindness in pardoning them." Nothing is so apt to inspire men, especially those in public situations, with an intuit-

tive skill in this science, as a sudden unexpected elevation in life. Henry V. forgot his jolly friend Falstaff, and the rest of his boon-companions, on his father's death. I might, perhaps, give a few similar instances in later times, were I not unwilling to swell out my essay by introducing historical circumstances, which every body knows. I shall rather proceed to point out two singular circumstances which I have discovered in this case. One is, that though such a change of fortune is inevitably attended by a sudden and total oblivion of all good offices done by friends, so that even the persons themselves and their names are obliterated from our memory, it impresses most strongly on the mind the injuries that have been received: while the feelings of gratitude diminish in proportion to the means of indulging them, the desire of revenge increases in a tenfold proportion. The other is, that the loss of fortune has an effect on the memory diametrically opposite to its acquisition. For as when a man's worldly circumstances improve, he rapidly forgets all his former connexions, so when they decline, this faculty is so whetted, that he has the most accurate recollection of every relation, however distant, and of every acquaintance, who at the most remote period, ever made him the slightest profession of friendship.

(To be concluded in our next.)

(For the Monthly Museum.)

SYMPATHY.*

At the extremity of one of the wildest of the Swiss cantons, in a

romantic spot, surrounded with

some of the publications of the celebrated Madame Genlis; but as it is little

* This tale has already appeared in

wood and hills, and intersected by torrents rushing from the mountains, may still be seen the ruins of a mansion built on the borders of Lake Laverzer; the traveller who passes from Einsidlen to Zug, cannot fail to stop at a place whose appearance is so striking. The building has not been long uninhabited: its ruins still excite interesting recollections; in every part may be read the name of Savinia, always written twice. This name constitutes the entire ornament of a decayed alcove, where the paintings on every pannel exhibit these words twined together in wreaths of flowers. They are carved on the bark of almost every tree.—Within the enclosure that formed the garden may still be seen the remains of broken palings, interwoven with vines, and extending over a stone seat, on which is this inscription—*THE BOWER OF THE SAVINIAS*. The traveller, affected by these tokens of mutual affection, seeks to trace the existence of those beings who were animated with such a tender feeling in this savage spot. Their seat, deserted and in ruins, too plainly indicates that the Savinias are no more.—Yet, impelled by a sweet emotion, we still proceed in quest of their rural monuments of attachment.—At the extremity of the lawn is seen the remains of a lovely building; here another inscription informs us, that this is *THE TEMPLE OF HAPPINESS*, erected by the Savinias. Three statues formerly adorned its interior; the pedestals

known to the generality of readers, and known to these only through the medium of an indifferent translation, and as it also serves to display most affectingly the dangers resulting from an excessive sensibility encouraged in childhood, it is hoped it will not be unacceptable in its present dress.

alone remain; we read on them the words *INNOCENCE, YOUTH, FRIENDSHIP*. The ruined Temple of Happiness leads to an alley of willows, at the end of which is a tomb—it is that of the Savinias.—Their re-united dust rests beneath a rock overspread with moss, rising from the border of the lake, and reflected on the surface of the wave. Two poplars were formerly planted here on the same day: these twin-trees have inclined in such a manner towards each other, that their pliant branches intertwine and form a kind of canopy above the tomb. This melancholy rock presents no danger to the mariner: the navigator of these wild regions fears not to approach it, as he coasts along its desert banks; here the neighbouring shepherds find a pleasing shade, while they recline upon the summit of the rock: here, screened by the towering poplars from the violence of the sun, they command the plain, and watch over their flocks, which lie beneath their eye extended on its surface. Here also have I meditated, during my toilsome travels, upon the rock of the Savinias; I have wept over their tomb; I have collected, among the scattered cottages of the Canton, the affecting traditions which constitute the history I am about to record.

Antonia was a native of Geneva; she had an elder sister, who was the sole object of her mother's cares; Antonia, the victim of this undeserved prejudice, passed the greatest part of her youth in grief and tears. One of her mother's relations, who was deeply affected with her situation, was her only confidant. Mulsain, for this was his name, seldom visited Geneva;

his fortune mostly depended on a rich uncle settled in this canton: in the solitude of its romantic vales he therefore spent the greatest part of his life. Antonia's future prospects were wholly sacrificed to the aggrandizement of her sister, who, in consequence of this unjust division of property, obtained a splendid match. A few years after this event her mother died, and Antonia found herself at the age of twenty-three an orphan, without fortune, without director, but not without consolation: she had still a friend. Mulsain hastened to dry her tears; he did not offer love, but he tendered what was still more valuable, perfect esteem, and faithful friendship. Antonia accepted his hand, and gladly prepared to bury herself for ever among the rocks of Laverzer. The sight of this wild region did not damp her spirits: her old uncle received her with rapture—"you shall reign here," said he, "you shall be loved." This worthy recluse knew the tone of sentiment that vibrated on woman's heart. What more could be desired by her who had ever been a stranger beneath the maternal roof.

Ludvil, the venerable uncle of Mulsain, was an old bachelor of more than sixty years of age: indolence, sloth, and gentleness, formed the basis of his disposition; above all things he loved tranquillity and peace. He had always avoided marriage, because marriage, he feared, would have disturbed his repose. Though incapable of affectation and deceit, there was no man of whom the world formed so wrong an opinion; all his external appearance was deceitful; he was thought to be a philosopher, because he resided more than ten years in perfect re-

tirement, yet was this the effect of inactivity alone; he found himself at ease, and he remained so. He had an appearance of thought and meditation: you would take him for a profound thinker, yet he had never meditated in his life. On beholding him in the midst of his rocks, and on the banks of his lake, you would have imagined that there was something romantic in his character; yet his only pleasure in wandering by torrents and rivulets, was to enjoy their refreshing coolness; the verdant carpet of the lawn was to him but a couch for repose and sleep. Incapable of any real attachment, he had a kind of suavity and mildness that caused him to be mistaken for an old man of the greatest sensibility. He never chid any one; it would have fatigued him. He would rather forgive without an explanation, than agitate or vex himself. Did the unfortunate apply to him, he hastened to their assistance, in order to relieve himself from a painful sensation. He seemed to direct no one, yet he fascinated all who approached him. If you quit- ted him, he never complained, but he had a countenance so sorrow- ful, and on your return, appeared so happy, that you chid yourself even for an absence, however short, however necessary. It was dan- gerous to offer him any new mark of attention; he appeared so much affected by it, he spoke so much of it, and with expressions of grati- tude which marked so strongly his confidence of its repetition, that it was scarcely possible to have the courage to disappoint his hopes. In short, nature had taught him the great secret of adorning and concealing selfishness without dis- simulation, and of governing all who surrounded him, not only

without authority; but even by making himself beloved.

Ludvil beheld Antonia's arrival with sincere joy; his housekeeper was old, and every day more infirm; those attentions, the want of which are so distressing, were now to be paid by a young and grateful niece. In fact, the house, on a sudden assumed a new aspect; it appeared more lively, more animated; a greater degree of neatness and regularity was immediately perceptible; a certain air of elegance shewed the influence of a mistress of the family: at the first entrance it could be seen that a woman was the resident. The old uncle was a thousand times better attended and better nursed; in return, he every day repeated his praises of Antonia: every day he congratulated his nephew on having made so fortunate a choice.—At the end of some months, Antonia perceived that she would soon become a mother. Gifted with extreme sensibility, never acquainted with love, she eagerly wished for children; already she felt that she would love them to distraction, and was determined to put them on the most perfect equality; for she could not forget how bitterly she had suffered by the injustice of her mother.

About the end of the autumn of the same year, Antonia became the mother of two lovely twins, who resembled one another so exactly, that it was necessary, at the moment of their birth, to fasten a mark on them, to distinguish one from the other. When they were both laid in their mother's arms, and she perceived herself alone with them, surveying them with a look of inexpressible joy and tenderness, "Sweet innocents," said she, "heaven has heard my pray-

ers, and has formed you to be the objects of my equal affection. May I ever be deceived when I behold you, and abolish every distinction between you in my heart. The laws themselves shall not have the power of granting the slightest preference to either. I abolish for ever between you this right of seniority, which I have found so fatal to my happiness." With these words Antonia untied the ribbons which served to distinguish the children; the family came in at this moment, and Antonia declared that as she had changed the children's places several times, she could no longer distinguish one from the other. The father and uncle were astonished: they murmured; Antonia allowed them to suppose it the effect of thoughtlessness. She was a little chidden, but the affair could not be remedied, and they were obliged to acquiesce in the misfortune.

Antonia, faithful to her system of equality, wished that both should have the same name. She was told that there would be no possibility of distinction.—"This is exactly what I want," replied she. As they were born on the 19th of October, they were named SAVINIA, in honour of their birth-day saint. The same maternal bosom nourished the twins together; and they were so brought up to love one another, that they became inseparable, and if one wept, the other immediately burst into tears. This instinct of nature and of sensibility daily displayed itself by more affecting symptoms. Time and years served but to encrease an attachment, heightened by all the cares of Antonia, confirmed by habit, and by a similarity of inclination and character. Every thing was in common between them, their play-things,

his fortune mostly depended on a rich uncle settled in this canton: in the solitude of its romantic vales he therefore spent the greatest part of his life. Antonia's future prospects were wholly sacrificed to the aggrandizement of her sister, who, in consequence of this unjust division of property, obtained a splendid match. A few years after this event her mother died, and Antonia found herself at the age of twenty-three an orphan, without fortune, without director, but not without consolation: she had still a friend. Mulsain hastened to dry her tears; he did not offer love, but he tendered what was still more valuable, perfect esteem, and faithful friendship. Antonia accepted his hand, and gladly prepared to bury herself for ever among the rocks of Laverzer. The sight of this wild region did not damp her spirits: her old uncle received her with rapture—"you shall reign here," said he, "you shall be loved." This worthy recluse knew the tone of sentiment that vibrated on woman's heart. What more could be desired by her who had ever been a stranger beneath the maternal roof.

Ludvil, the venerable uncle of Mulsain, was an old bachelor of more than sixty years of age: indolence, sloth, and gentleness, formed the basis of his disposition; above all things he loved tranquillity and peace. He had always avoided marriage, because marriage, he feared, would have disturbed his repose. Though incapable of affectation and deceit, there was no man of whom the world formed so wrong an opinion; all his external appearance was deceitful; he was thought to be a philosopher, because he resided more than ten years in perfect re-

tirement, yet was this the effect of inactivity alone; he found himself at ease, and he remained so. He had an appearance of thought and meditation: you would take him for a profound thinker, yet he had never meditated in his life. On beholding him in the midst of his rocks, and on the banks of his lake, you would have imagined that there was something romantic in his character; yet his only pleasure in wandering by torrents and rivulets, was to enjoy their refreshing coolness; the verdant carpet of the lawn was to him but a couch for repose and sleep. Incapable of any real attachment, he had a kind of suavity and mildness that caused him to be mistaken for an old man of the greatest sensibility. He never chid any one; it would have fatigued him. He would rather forgive without an explanation, than agitate or vex himself. Did the unfortunate apply to him, he hastened to their assistance, in order to relieve himself from a painful sensation. He seemed to direct no one, yet he fascinated all who approached him. If you quitted him, he never complained, but he had a countenance so sorrowful, and on your return, appeared so happy, that you chid yourself even for an absence, however short, however necessary. It was dangerous to offer him any new mark of attention; he appeared so much affected by it, he spoke so much of it, and with expressions of gratitude which marked so strongly his confidence of its repetition, that it was scarcely possible to have the courage to disappoint his hopes. In short, nature had taught him the great secret of adorning and concealing selfishness without dissimulation, and of governing all who surrounded him, not only

without authority, but even by making himself beloved.

Ludvil beheld Antonia's arrival with sincere joy; his housekeeper was old, and every day more infirm; those attentions, the want of which are so distressing, were now to be paid by a young and grateful niece. In fact, the house, on a sudden assumed a new aspect; it appeared more lively, more animated; a greater degree of neatness and regularity was immediately perceptible; a certain air of elegance shewed the influence of a mistress of the family: at the first entrance it could be seen that a woman was the resident. The old uncle was a thousand times better attended and better nursed; in return, he every day repeated his praises of Antonia: every day he congratulated his nephew on having made so fortunate a choice.—At the end of some months, Antonia perceived that she would soon become a mother. Gifted with extreme sensibility, never acquainted with love, she eagerly wished for children; already she felt that she would love them to distraction, and was determined to put them on the most perfect equality; for she could not forget how bitterly she had suffered by the injustice of her mother.

About the end of the autumn of the same year, Antonia became the mother of two lovely twins, who resembled one another so exactly, that it was necessary, at the moment of their birth, to fasten a mark on them, to distinguish one from the other. When they were both laid in their mother's arms, and she perceived herself alone with them, surveying them with a look of inexpressible joy and tenderness, "Sweet innocents," said she, "heaven has heard my pray-

ers, and has formed you to be the objects of my equal affection. May I ever be deceived when I behold you, and abolish every distinction between you in my heart. The laws themselves shall not have the power of granting the slightest preference to either. I abolish forever between you this right of seniority, which I have found so fatal to my happiness." With these words Antonia untied the ribbons which served to distinguish the children; the family came in at this moment, and Antonia declared that as she had changed the children's places several times, she could no longer distinguish one from the other. The father and uncle were astonished: they murmured; Antonia allowed them to suppose it the effect of thoughtlessness. She was a little chidden, but the affair could not be remedied, and they were obliged to acquiesce in the misfortune.

Antonia, faithful to her system of equality, wished that both should have the same name. She was told that there would be no possibility of distinction.—"This is exactly what I want," replied she. As they were born on the 19th of October, they were named SAVINIA, in honour of their birth-day saint. The same maternal bosom nourished the twins together; and they were so brought up to love one another, that they became inseparable, and if one wept, the other immediately burst into tears. This instinct of nature and of sensibility daily displayed itself by more affecting symptoms. Time and years served but to encrease an attachment, heightened by all the cares of Antonia, confirmed by habit, and by a similarity of inclination and character. Every thing was in common between them, their play-things,

his fortune mostly depended on a rich uncle settled in this canton: in the solitude of its romantic vales he therefore spent the greatest part of his life. Antonia's future prospects were wholly sacrificed to the aggrandizement of her sister, who, in consequence of this unjust division of property, obtained a splendid match. A few years after this event her mother died, and Antonia found herself at the age of twenty-three an orphan, without fortune, without director, but not without consolation: she had still a friend. Mulsain hastened to dry her tears; he did not offer love, but he tendered what was still more valuable, perfect esteem, and faithful friendship. Antonia accepted his hand, and gladly prepared to bury herself for ever among the rocks of Laverzer. The sight of this wild region did not damp her spirits: her old uncle received her with rapture—"you shall reign here," said he, "you shall be loved." This worthy recluse knew the tone of sentiment that vibrated on woman's heart. What more could be desired by her who had ever been a stranger beneath the maternal roof.

Ludvil, the venerable uncle of Mulsain, was an old bachelor of more than sixty years of age: indolence, sloth, and gentleness, formed the basis of his disposition; above all things he loved tranquillity and peace. He had always avoided marriage, because marriage, he feared, would have disturbed his repose. Though incapable of affection and deceit, there was no man of whom the world formed so wrong an opinion; all his external appearance was deceitful; he was thought to be a philosopher, because he resided more than ten years in perfect re-

tirement, yet was this the effect of inactivity alone; he found himself at ease, and he remained so. He had an appearance of thought and meditation: you would take him for a profound thinker, yet he had never meditated in his life. On beholding him in the midst of his rocks, and on the banks of his lake, you would have imagined that there was something romantic in his character; yet his only pleasure in wandering by torrents and rivulets, was to enjoy their refreshing coolness; the verdant carpet of the lawn was to him but a couch for repose and sleep. Incapable of any real attachment, he had a kind of suavity and mildness that caused him to be mistaken for an old man of the greatest sensibility. He never chid any one; it would have fatigued him. He would rather forgive without an explanation, than agitate or vex himself. Did the unfortunate apply to him, he hastened to their assistance, in order to relieve himself from a painful sensation. He seemed to direct no one, yet he fascinated all who approached him. If you quitted him, he never complained, but he had a countenance so sorrowful, and on your return, appeared so happy, that you chid yourself even for an absence, however short, however necessary. It was dangerous to offer him any new mark of attention; he appeared so much affected by it, he spoke so much of it, and with expressions of gratitude which marked so strongly his confidence of its repetition, that it was scarcely possible to have the courage to disappoint his hopes. In short, nature had taught him the great secret of adorning and concealing selfishness without dissimulation, and of governing all who surrounded him, not only

without authority, but even by making himself beloved.

Ludvil beheld Antonia's arrival with sincere joy; his housekeeper was old, and every day more infirm; those attentions, the want of which are so distressing, were now to be paid by a young and grateful niece. In fact, the house, on a sudden assumed a new aspect; it appeared more lively, more animated; a greater degree of neatness and regularity was immediately perceptible; a certain air of elegance shewed the influence of a mistress of the family: at the first entrance it could be seen that a woman was the resident. The old uncle was a thousand times better attended and better nursed; in return, he every day repeated his praises of Antonia: every day he congratulated his nephew on having made so fortunate a choice.—

At the end of some months, Antonia perceived that she would soon become a mother. Gifted with extreme sensibility, never acquainted with love, she eagerly wished for children; already she felt that she would love them to distraction, and was determined to put them on the most perfect equality; for she could not forget how bitterly she had suffered by the injustice of her mother.

About the end of the autumn of the same year, Antonia became the mother of two lovely twins, who resembled one another so exactly, that it was necessary, at the moment of their birth, to fasten a mark on them, to distinguish one from the other. When they were both laid in their mother's arms, and she perceived herself alone with them, surveying them with a look of inexpressible joy and tenderness, "Sweet innocents," said she, "heaven has heard my pray-

ers, and has formed you to be the objects of my equal affection. May I ever be deceived when I behold you, and abolish every distinction between you in my heart. The laws themselves shall not have the power of granting the slightest preference to either. I abolish for ever between you this right of seniority, which I have found so fatal to my happiness." With these words Antonia untied the ribbons which served to distinguish the children; the family came in at this moment, and Antonia declared that as she had changed the children's places several times, she could no longer distinguish one from the other. The father and uncle were astonished: they murmured; Antonia allowed them to suppose it the effect of thoughtlessness. She was a little chidden, but the affair could not be remedied, and they were obliged to acquiesce in the misfortune.

Antonia, faithful to her system of equality, wished that both should have the same name. She was told that there would be no possibility of distinction.—"This is exactly what I want," replied she. As they were born on the 19th of October, they were named SAVINIA, in honour of their birth-day saint. The same maternal bosom nourished the twins together; and they were so brought up to love one another, that they became inseparable, and if one wept, the other immediately burst into tears. This instinct of nature and of sensibility daily displayed itself by more affecting symptoms. Time and years served but to encrease an attachment, heightened by all the cares of Antonia, confirmed by habit, and by a similarity of inclination and character. Every thing was in common between them, their play-things,

their clothes ; nay, even their very rewards and punishments. If one was accused of having committed a fault, the mother punished at random her who was nearest, and the child, though not guilty, never remonstrated against the chastisement ; she had been so much accustomed to think that her sister and she were the same thing, that she never thought it reasonable to say—it was not I ; and besides, if any punishment was inflicted on her sister, she felt herself an equal sufferer. Nothing could excite their jealousy : they adored their mother, and though she could perfectly ascertain the distinction between them, notwithstanding their extraordinary resemblance, she always pretended to confound them. If she caressed one, she said, “ I know that I have a Savinia on my knees, though I know not which ; what matter, since both are equally beloved ? ” One of them was superior in memory, and displayed a greater promise of ability. She was never sffered to perceive that this was known. Often she who was the best scholar repeated her sister’s lesson, and this without the smallest artifice, but merely through simplicity : “ She could not learn her task ; I have learned it as well as my own ; ’tis all the same. ”—Antonia only said to the other—“ Exert yourself, that you may have it in your power to do your sister the same service at another time. ” This hint was enough to excite the most lively emulation ; and the progress of both was equal to the warmest wishes of maternal tenderness. They were so extremely like, that you could not praise the figure of the one, without making the eulogium of the other.—They had exactly the same tone of voice ; to hear one sing, was to

applaud both. They had so identified themselves in each other, that the continual mistakes they occasioned, lost the power of amusing or surprising them ; to them they were no longer mistakes. It seemed to them that to make them but one person, was not to deceive oneself. The word *I* was not only unused between them, but almost wholly forgotten. Antonia encouraged every superstitious sentiment that tended to encrease their natural affection, and many illnesses which they had together confirmed them in the reality of this sympathy of nature. Imagination and sensibility strengthened these illusions. If either of them saw her sister hurt herself or fall, she thought she felt, and in reality did feel, the violence of the blow. Their sufferings, as well as their pleasures, became bonds of their attachment, till at length they had completely persuaded themselves that one and the same thread composed the web of their existence, and that, independently of regret and grief, the death of the one would draw after it that of the other by some mysterious and irrevocable law of nature. This singular existence charmed Antonia, sometimes terrified Mulsain, and astonished Ludvil, who had ever lived but for himself. “ I cannot understand it,” he would exclaim. “ How happy are they,” said Antonia. “ Yet,” observed the prudent Mulsain, “ what will become of them should they be ever separated. ” “ Alas,” she would reply, “ why make ourselves uneasy ? we see them enjoying the purest and most innocent pleasure—can foresight be combined with extreme sensibility ? ” Doubtless, women should allow themselves to be directed by men ; in fact, these alone possess wisdom ;

those only who can calculate and see justly are fit to govern others.

Antonia was the happiest of wives and mothers; Mulsain loved her sincerely; they sufficed for themselves, and lived in the most perfect union. But old Ludvil was often discontented since the birth of the Savinias; he now engaged less attention. Antonia devoted a great part of her time to the education of her daughters: as they in turn bestowed a decided preference on Mulsain and their mother, a sort of jealousy unmingled with sensibility, secretly tormented the old

man. The most delicate attentions were lavished on him, but he wished to enjoy them exclusively: he at length experienced how much an old man is humbled by selfishness. What can be more contemptible than a being at the close of existence, a being who has lost his strength, his faculties, his talents, and who, not satisfied with the tribute of mild affection and gratitude, wishes still to have an undivided preference, still to have every action regulated by a regard to him alone.

(To be continued.)

(To the Editor of the Monthly Museum.)

SIR,

I have a sister residing at —, who is unfortunately an old maid, and whose activity of mind not having any domestic opportunity of venting itself, has become discoverable at different times by a variety of rages. Parroquets and pug-dogs afforded full exercise for her energies, until supplied by old china and tortoise-shell cats, but as these were subjects with which I was tolerably conversant, I could still read her letters with fluency and pleasure. Latterly, however, she has become a furious *Blue Stocking*, and this new rage is sure to throw me into one whenever I attempt to decypher her epistles. If I mention the length or shortness of her communications, she desires me not to measure her manuscripts by the bed of *Procrustes*: calls our uncle Tom, *Hercules*, because he gave up his *Club* upon his marriage; and while she is upon that subject, informs me that the young men of the present day are more likely to fall in love with themselves, like *Narcissus*, or with a statue, like *Pygmalion*, than with

VOL. II.

the most accomplished and beautiful woman (meaning herself); unless like *Danae* she can be courted in a shower of gold. If I enquire about any of our old friends in the country, I get, instead of an answer, a string of interrogatories, calling upon me to cite any instances of living friendships comparable to those of *Pylades and Orestes*, *Damon and Pythias*, *Arria and Pætus*, and a dozen more; and in one half sheet I was lately introduced to *Clytemnestra*, *Polyxena*, *Memnon*, *Xanippe*, *Vertumnus*, *Momus*, and the *Minotaur*, with a note at the bottom recalling to my recollection, that *Minerva*, the goddess of wisdom, was an old maid. Now, sir, when I am enquiring the health of farmer Stubbs, and Miss Molly Maybush, it is provoking to receive a catalogue of ladies and gentlemen of whom I know nothing in the world, though I have no doubt they are very respectable people, as my sister is rather prudish than otherwise in selecting her acquaintance. Even this folly would be supportable,

A a

because her letters with a little spelling were at least readable; but she has latterly been learning the Greek alphabet, and yesterday the enclosed scrawl came to my hands. Its pothooks and hangers are all Greek to me—I can make neither head nor tail of them—our parish clerk to whom I have shewn them, is ready to make oath that he has seen them somewhere in print, although unable to decypher them, and I have been advised to send them to you, that your literary correspondents may offer their conjectures upon the subject.

I am, sir, your's, &c.

MARGERY DAW.

A number of engagements have prevented me from writing to you sooner, and I had nothing N to

send. I dined yesterday at Doctor Eliel Elips, where we had a B A little damaged by keeping, a carp whose P was excellent, and a Π.—The wine as usual was Δ about, and the men drank whenever they H B meat. But as ill luck would have it, the cat came in, and began to M, I was afraid she would have flown in my face, or torn my K's she leaped upon Θble. This made a riway I ran, but tumbled down the stEg, lay senseless, but soon revived, and roared out O. I know you will say Φ to all this, and therefore will conclude for fear of Ttology.

Your loving sister,

WINIFRED DAW.

P. S. You have not sent me the gaZ long while.

THE SELECTOR.—No. VI.

THE Abbe Grosier, in his description of China, after enumerating a number of extraordinary animals of that immense empire, says,

"A much more extraordinary RAT, called the *Fen-chou*, is found beyond *Tai-tong-Kiang*, upon the coasts of the northern sea, which is almost always frozen. This animal is shaped like a rat, but is as large as an elephant. It inhabits obscure caverns, and carefully shuns light. The ivory it furnishes is as white as that procured from the elephant, but it is much easier to be worked, and never splits. An ancient Chinese book, called *Chin-y-King*, speaks of this animal in the following words:—'There is in the northern extremities, amidst the snow and ice which cover the country, a *chou* (a rat) which weighs a thousand pounds: its flesh is very good for those who are over-heated.—Another kind, of a less size,

is also mentioned, which is only as large as a buffalo: it burrows in the earth, like the mole, flies from the light, and remains almost always shut up in its subterranean retreats. What we have here related is extracted from a printed collection of observations, by the celebrated emperor *Kang-hi*."

The following extract is copied from the diary of a man of letters:—"Saw distinctly this evening, through a microscope, the circulation of the white and transparent globules of blood, in the pellucid body and members of a water-newt, a spectacle which impressed me with a more awful sense of the mysterious operations going on in nature, than the revolution of the planets."

At Paris, in dinner-parties, previous to the revolution, each gentleman brought his servant, called for what wine he chose, at and be-

tween the courses; liqueurs were introduced with the desert: and when the lady of the house said, "*Je suis à vos ordres*"—"I am at your service," all withdrew together to coffee and cards, or dispersed to the opera; after which the same, or some other house, was found open for supper, which was usually composed of as great a number of dishes as the dinner. Young fellows drank only *dans les debauches* with their mistresses, or in set parties; to appear drunk in mixed company would be an unpardonable offence.

Impromptu of Voltaire, to a lady who wished him to live eighty years longer:

*Vous voulez retenir mon ame fugitive;
Ah, Madame! le le crois bien;
De tout ce que l'on a l'on ne veut perdre rien,
On veut que son esclave vive.*

Unparalleled modesty—A French lady, who published a wretched epic poem, on the subject of the discovery of America by Columbus, had her own picture prefixed

to it with this inscription—*Forma Venus, arte Minerva. A Venus in person, a Pallas in wit.*

It would be difficult to find in the English language, of equal variety and length, four such compositions, as Burke's speech to the electors of Bristol; Johnson's preface to Shakspeare; Parr's dedication to Hood; and Lowth's letter to Warburton.

A French emigrant of condition, when the death of the celebrated Burke was communicated to him by one who had known and admired his superior endowments, gave the following chilling answer: "*Ah! une grande perte; un orateur de moins!*"—"Alas! a great loss: you have an orator less."

When King William, on his march to Carrick-on-Suir, looked down from the Walsh mountains upon the barony of Iverk, called in that part of the country The Golden Vale, he is said to have exclaimed, "This, indeed, is a country worth fighting for."

Poetry.

ODE.

Addressed to my friend *Will-o-the-Wisp's* noble charger *NOGGINS*, in gratitude for his gentle bearing and commendable deportment on a late occasion.

"The Knight's steed was so meagre, that his bones stuck out like the corners of a *Spanish rial*, a coin of irregular shape, not unlike the figure in geometry called a *Trapezium*."

Don Quixote.

"I love a ballad but even too well, if it be doleful matter merrily set down; or, a very pleasant thing indeed, and sung lamentably."

Shaks. Wint. Tale.

My gallant Grey, right gentle Noggins!
Thy fame shall soon surpass "Giles

Scroggins.*

Since Minstrel chaunts thy various joggings,

On Monkstown road,
And walls, in doleful dumps, the floggings

On thee bestowed.

On level ground you smoothly amble,
O'er rugged rock you stoutly scramble,
And creep through mire, and brake, and bramble,

Till, freed from bridle,
You frisk and cock your tail, and gambol,
In pastimes idle.

Oft have thy loins borne *postaster*,
Mysic sometimes, and eke thy master:
And, sooth to say, good steed! the faster,

* A foolish song on the amount of a Clown called Scroggins, "Petr for the sake of the metre."
† Monkstown, where my friend had a lodge.

Thy hoofs have stirr'd on;
And ne'er, by trip or foul disaster,
Thou'st spill'd thy burden.

Else lash were o'er thy shoulders furld;
For 'twere a scandal to the world,
To see two bards in gutter hurld,
While verses spinning;
'Till each beholder's nose were curl'd
In mirthful grinning.

But now thine hour of fame arrives;
Thou bearest TWO REVEREND PARSONS
lives,
And hard for speed thy mettle strives,
Nor once thou'st tarried.
"Needs must go when the devil drives,"
And Old Nick's carried.

I've seen, good faith! a palfrey fleeter;
But harness'd, ne'er, a steed discreeter,
To shun the ruts in road, or street, or
Rock, bog, or mire;
And safer horse ne'er graced the metre
Of Poet's lyre.

No fear that, while thy back bestriding,
My fancy at full gallop riding,
Should leap the slender fence dividing
Wild wit from madness,
Where maniac verse for aye is gliding
From grief to gladness.

Thy sober gait, thy temperate canter
Might quench the fume of epic ranter,
And damp the sharp satyric banter
Of muse run riot;
And e'en inspire, as slow we saunter,
The love-song quiet.

* Had heaven endowed quadruped cattle
With gift of tongues, like men to prattle,
"I'd pawn my dukedom," thou could'st
fattle

Of some one's pranks;
Of lips atilt in amorous battle,
And "quips and cranks."

Yet scant thou know'st, my poor dumb
beast,
Of bridal knot and marriage-feast,
Since thou with ignorance art bless'd
Of all such lore:
And heaven grant thy minstrel's breast
May ken no more!

For 'tis a saying old and true;
That bachelors, like me and you,
May be content with hose worn through,
And spauld setlock;

Since married folk till death must rue
The yoke of wedlock.

I'd think myself right independent,
Had I a horse and time to spend on't,
A purse, with some few pounds at the
end on't,
Just "quantum suff,"
And one poor muse, my true attendant,
Through smooth and rough.

Or would kind heaven, more bounteous
still,
Grant me a benefice to fill,
A glebe-house and tythe-pig to kill,
And thee, my Noggins;
How gaily should we both fulfil
Our Sunday joggings.

But, as thou'st got no christian breeding,
And fodder more than sermons needing,
Thou, in the grave-yard might'st be
feeding,
If so wert minded,
The whiles my reverence were reading
Discourse long-winded.

Methinks I see thee, careless, munching
From wit's or blockhead's grave thy
luncheon,
Which e'er has got the greenest bunch on,
To fill thy maw,
And beggar's staff and monarch's tran-
cheon
Raise equal awe.

This, sure, were subject for a moral,
To see the bard's and soldier's laurel
As valueless as bitter sorrel,
Or rampant briar:—
Life's but a child, and fame the coral
For which we cry here.

These church-yard vapours, dank and
drear,
Have check'd my muse's gay career—
Methinks I see old Death appear,
With mourning coaches;
And heaven knows I've cause to fear
His gaunt approaches.

Lank spare-ribs strides his pallid horse,
Behind him crawl his griesly force,
Souls, who have ta'en out a divorce,
Against their bodies;
And me-word, lo! they bend their course;
In white-plum'd noddies.

Then, Noggins! by your leave awhile—
Behoves me use my deffest style,

* This and the following verse allude to my friend's
marriage, which took place about the time this was
written.

† These verses, and the "Address to Death,"
were written in a desultory way, during a long and
severe fit of illness.

Old spectral *Finis* to beguile,
By prayer or bluster :
I know I'm in his rank and file,
For speedy muster.

Now to palaver the old croney—
“Hark ye, ‘Squire Death,’ slim Raw-
ney-boney,
“Thou hast not entrails, sure, so stoney
“Thy friends to choak ;
“And friend, I’m not ashamed to own
ye,
“Fore all the folk.

“Though, faith, our friendship ne’er
was able—
“To make me count thee sociable,
“Or place my legs ‘neath the same table
“To drink our skinful ;
“Thy wit’s too grave, thy looks too
sable,
“For one so sinful.

“Nor am I numbered with those saint
ones
“Who hold a visiting acquaintance
“With thee, by trances, fits, and faint-
ings,
“Which I’m no match in,
“Ware hawk! pretence might breed
repentance,
“For ‘mocking’s catching.’

“When sickness, want, or pain attacks
me,
“When age our vital powers relaxes,
“Then, Gatherer of Doom’s-day
taxes!
“Thou send’st a clerk,
“Who in our earthen band-box packs us,
“Both damp and dark.

“But lurk unseen, and round me spread
“False joys in folly’s garden bred,
“Then, aim thy faulchion at my head,
“And deuce may care!
“The headlong path I’ll, reckless, tread
“To ruin’s snare.

“Yet could I but discreetly hit
“The joint where ‘*plus et moins*’ split,
“Where prudence checks enjoyment’s
bit,
“As Heaven’s my hope,
“My heart would ne’er desire to quit
“The golden scope.

“Then, as I’d stretch my frame to rest,
“No conscience-quails should rack my
breast,
“My soul should, aye, be ready drest
“For life or death ;

“Just as thy Lord and mine thought
best
“To deal me breath.

“Nay, never shake thine angry blade—
“Till heaven my death-warrant has
made,
“Thou dar’st not of my beard invade
“A single bristle ;
“So, thou and eke thy sexton’s spade,
“May e’en go whistling.”

He’s gone—but in his ghastly look,
I read, as in my primer-book,
“Fool! thy bravado death can break ;
“But sure’s a gun,
“He’ll, one day, bait a gilded hook,
“Thou can’st not shun.”

Ay! well the Poacher’s mood I know;
He’ll track my steps through age’s snow,
With murderous shaft to lay me low :
(May heaven requite him)
And yet no *Crowner’s* ‘quest, I trow,
Will dare indict him.

But come, let’s change this doleful mea-
sure,
We* both set out in search of pleasure,
And mirth being all the muse’s treasure,
Stock, lock and barrel ;
Time’s quick-march leaves the bard no
leisure,
With life to quarrel.

I’ll live in joy, while live I may :
For many a blessed, summer’s day
Shall brightly o’er the green sward play,
My grave that thatches ;
When joy, in vain, to ears of clay,
Shall sing her catches.

Tis time we both should slack our gait,
For, though thou cock’st thine ears, clate,
At praise, through which, though long
and late,
My muse I’ve spur’d on,
Thou’rt loath (thy modesty’s so great,)
To bear the burden.

Then fare thee well, my gentle Noggins !
I would thy fame surpass’d Giles Scrog-
gins ;
And, since delight hath crown’d our jog-
gings,
Thy minstrel pays,
In lieu of stripes, fatigues, and floggings,
These grateful lays.

OLD NICK.

*Woodcote, at the meeting }
of the Waters.*

* i. e. Noggins and L.

The Drama.

DRAMATIC STRICTURES.

We cannot proceed to the detail of what must be the most pleasing part of our theatrical disquisitions, the discussion of the merits of the performer who has so suddenly started up to the highest pinnacle of dramatic excellence, without first noticing a new stroke of economic policy in the managers, more striking, because, we confess, notwithstanding our settled opinion of their singular merits, we were unprepared for it. It is, perhaps, not generally known, that an attempt was made within these few years to furnish the people of Dublin with entertainment during the season in which the Crow-street theatre was closed, by establishing a summer theatre. It was thought, and not unreasonably, that a regular company could be maintained, of equal respectability, to speak the lowest of it, with that by means of which the Patentees are enabled to maintain their exclusive privilege, which, with the occasional visits of the first-rate London performers, would afford a rational amusement to that part of the population of Dublin, who cannot or do not chuse to go from home in quest of variety, during the summer months. The managers were strangely averse to this arrangement, and set all their engines at work to prevent it, in which at length they succeeded by a compromise, that they would keep their own theatre open during the summer. It is also necessary to be known, that during these very summer months, in which they have engaged to supply the city of Dublin with a continuance of dramatic

entertainments, the most rational which a polished community can enjoy, they have been in the habit of taking their company to Cork and Limerick, until the recurrence of the winter season in Dublin. The latter of these cities has been lately lost. The inhabitants, who had been hitherto treated with a kind of annual runaway visit from the Dublin company, in a ruinous old building, at the most inconvenient extremity of the town, with a degree of spirit worthy of imitation elsewhere, raised a new theatre by subscription, the management of which they have committed to Mr. Talbot, our old and meritorious favourite, who had already demonstrated his title to their confidence, by the manner in which he has for several years conducted the affairs of a theatre in the north of Ireland. The theatre of Cork, from the operation of similar causes, was also likely to slip through the Patentee's fingers. The inhabitants of this city say also, you must either find amusement for us, or we will seek it for ourselves. What is to be done?—Is a new company to be raised?—That would be perhaps impossible—certainly expensive. He takes a middle course—The regular company in Dublin, of itself too weak to afford a variety of entertainments to one audience, is divided—the best and most favourite actors are sent off to Cork, leaving the remainder here to keep the theatre open according to agreement, and to support Mr. Kean, or any other performer of eminence, who may make an occasional visit to this city. Thus

stands the case, and thus it will be as long as an exclusive patent causes a monopoly. In all other cases a monopoly is rejected as ruinous. Wherever it has existed, its continuance has been the destruction of what it was intended to promote. How would the public be accommodated in their summer excursions to the fashionable watering places, if there was a monopoly of accommodation—if one house had an exclusive patent to give them board and lodging. How if there were a monopoly of public coaches—It is the very bane of improvement. The privileged person is not only deprived of every motive to do his duty, but what he believes to be his interest is at times diametrically opposite to it. In the present case, the division of the petty company that has this winter upheld the right of monopoly in Dublin, teaches us to see its effects very feelingly. If when the company was full, a stranger could not have the play of Douglas, a play with but seven characters, for his benefit, how is Mr. Kean to choose when he has but the worst part of that same company to look to in his selection. Its effects have been already too manifest.

DRAMATIC REGISTER.

July 26. Richard Cœur de Lion—Weathercock.

27. Merchant of Venice—Citizen.

KEAN'S Shylock has completely confirmed the opinion formed by his first night's performance in Richard, proving, which some part of the audience indicated a strong inclination to doubt, that his fame, however heightened by the current of popular opinion, rested on the solid basis of real excellence.—Shylock, though a character of perfect uniformity, affords much

scope for the actor, and its varieties are all of that kind in which we think KEAN's chief merits lie. In his first scenes with Antonio and his friends, he revealed with peculiar delicacy the stifled malice lurking beneath the plausible guise of humility and friendship, when he made the proposals for the bond, by which he hoped to ensnare his unsuspecting victim. The sudden burst of unguarded passion, when Bassanio seems to doubt his motives, as suddenly checked before it could expose him fully, was finely expressed. In the scene with his daughter, something, we conceive, was wanting. Shylock is a harsh, not a cruel father—he loves his daughter, but it is like his money, for himself, and therefore he testifies his affection according to his own feelings. He shuts her out from society, but he entrusts her with his keys during his absence. If in his rage at her flight he vents curses upon her, horrible even against an enemy, they are but the natural consequences of that austere and inflexible selfishness, which making itself the centre, spurns away every feeling that is not directed to that point. Some sparks of latent tenderness should have tinged the air of Shylock in this scene. In his celebrated dialogue with Jubal, where the man is wholly absorbed in the monster, where the depravity of malignant avarice, unchecked by any curb of prudence, gives vent to its most horrible display, KEAN shone transcendent. The fiend-like execrations against his daughter, were surpassed only by the still more diabolical yell of exultation with which he received the confirmation of Antonio's utter ruin. As this scene displays the extent of his powers in a line peculiarly his own,

the workings of contradictory passions in a powerful and depraved mind, so that of the trial evinced a soundness of judgment, fully on a par with the vigour of his imagination. His entrance cool, collected, and determined, yet respectful, the look of keen enquiry with which he surveys the court, as if to ascertain the tone of feeling to which it was attuned—the gradual swell of eager desire, still under controul, because certain of gratification—the anxiety with which he surveys Portia, disguised as a judge—the open exultation in which he indulges, when he finds the new expounder of the law becomes the unwilling advocate of his rights—the astonishment expressed at the unexpected stop put to his malice, at the very moment of triumph—the gradual sinking of countenance on the successive blows struck at his fortune and his life, terminated, and as it were sealed up, by the look with which he leaves the court, a look of black malignity, that would, if possible, wither up all upon which it glanced—all this testified an extent and command of powers seldom equalled. He gave to Shylock an appearance of life and vivacity, not always bestowed upon him, but in which he was fully justified. Shylock is aged, but it is the actor's choice to bestow upon him the feebleness of decayed nature, or the energy of advanced years, declining, but not exhausted. KEAN chose the latter, and by his choice made the part more animated, and not less interesting.

28. *Beggar's Opera*—Three Weeks after Marriage.

29. *Othello*—Mock Doctor.

The drama does not present two more contradictory tragic characters, than those of Shylock and

Othello. Both are natural, both excellent, yet of excellence so opposite, that success in the one almost naturally induces the inference of incapability as to the other. Shylock is a picture of the extremes of the bad and degrading passions—Othello that of the noblest feelings, wrought up to excess. The one represents a debased state of the human mind, in itself disgusting, because voluntary, but heightened into grandeur by its gigantic depravity: the other exhibits a state of equal debasement, originating in causes the very reverse of the former—the unrestrained indulgence of emotions, at first praiseworthy. Hence in the former case the actor must earn all the applause he gains, as disgust at the subject must be conquered by excellence in its portraiture, while in the latter, the spectator cannot but attach to the artist some of the favour excited by the character depicted.

KEAN's Othello possessed all his characteristic beauties. The less animated parts were delivered with much judgment, in the tone of simple modesty; but it is in such parts that the defects of nature, which no arts can counterbalance, reveal themselves. Here was strikingly felt the want of that majestic deportment, that often gives substance to inanity, and of a musical intonation of cadence, that as often supplies the want of sentiment.—Kean wants voice and figure. But in the impassioned parts, where the energy of genius hurries away the mind from every inferior consideration, where human nature in its sublimest soarings is personified, unshackled by any of the petty accidents that distinguish man from his fellow, there KEAN ruled uncontrolled, predominant lord of

the ascendant. To point out a few of his many excellencies, we may select the passage—

"I felt not Cassio's kisses on her lips."

The expression of heart-rending anguish, wrought up to intensity, with which he forced out the hated name of Cassio, threw open to the audience at once the whole interior of the tortured heart of this wretched slave to jealousy. Nor could an idea of the state of forlorn desolation to which the fancied proofs of Desdemona's guilt had reduced Othello's mind, be better shewn than by the solemn delivery of the celebrated passage,

"Farewell the tranquil mind, &c."

It was the true tone of hopeless despondency. The last scene was altogether admirable. In no part of his acting does KEAN shew greater ingenuity, than in the representation of a violent death—there is in it always something novel, and, as far as our inexperience in such spectacles affords scope for judgment, an adherence to nature.

30. *Love in a Village*—*Ways and Means*—Aug. 1. Richard III.—Patrick's Day.

KEAN's Richard this night was indisputably superior to the former, particularly in the scenes which required much exertion of voice. One great test of his merit is, that he often deviates from his own mode of acting, without departing from nature. In doing so he proves his adherence to the principles by which his great mistress acts in all her works. The grand outlines, and the general course of action, are ever the same in nature, though infinitely varied by minute shades and alterations.

2. *Maid of the Mill*—*Matrimony*.

For the benefit of Mrs. DICKENS, who this night gained a *substantial* proof of the favourable opinion with which she is heard by the public.

••• We must here break off our monthly critique. However, Kean's departure will give us full scope to recur to what has been now omitted, during the performance of the semi-company in the summer theatre.

Monthly Register.

RETROSPECT OF THE AFFAIRS OF EUROPE.

Monthly Museum Office, 27th July, 1814.

THE general congress for the final settlement of the affairs of Europe, is to take place in October, at which Lord Castlereagh* is to attend on the part of England. If we are to judge of the future by the past, neither the cause of England or of humanity has reason to calculate much on the choice. Many speculations are afloat as to the general result. The most probable are a great augmentation of the political power of Russia, and an attempt at limiting the maritime claims of England.

Russia, with a population already too

great for the repose of Europe, so far civilized as to be capable of seizing on every military or naval improvement in aid of her future aggrandizement, yet still retaining so much of the fierce spirit of pristine barbarity, as to prevent the feeble cry of justice or humanity from being heard in the clash of arms; with a government, in which a spirit of steady prudence seems to counteract the want of splendid abilities in the ruler; with a peasantry, the best fitted for a persevering endurance of the privations and dangers of a military life—Russia, situate in a position impregnable by nature, yet well calculated for offensive operations against the greatest part of Europe, is the

* In our last Number it was stated, that the Duke of Wellington was appointed to fill this high office. This was erroneous. His mission is to France.

only power that has gained by the late war. Resting almost in a state of dormant torpidity, while the more active powers were straining every resource for hostility, she advanced to share the prey, that she had so little of the trouble of running down. Her resources are unexhausted, her people flushed with the pride of a victory, to which they had little claim. Bounded on the north of her western frontier by the feeble state of Sweden, whose powers she has completely paralyzed, by depriving it of Finland, and also by the politic manœuvre of attaching to it Norway; thus weakening Denmark by the loss of a powerful member, and at the same time, so far from adding to the real strength of Sweden by the addition of territory, that on the contrary, the disgust and antipathy of the new subjects will give too much employment to the government of Sweden, to allow it either time or means to oppose any future encroachments of its mighty neighbour. Proceeding farther south, Prussia becomes the frontier, a nation of itself of little military strength, and still further enfeebled by the fluctuating policy of its government. Austria forms its south-western boundary—a power whose habitual tardiness of operations frustrates the success of its great natural resources; and, also, considered in itself, wholly inadequate to a single-handed combat with Russia.—With these present means, and these facilities for future action, Russia claims, on what principle it is hard to guess, except that of the strongest, an immediate acquisition of territory, and of a territory the finest in Europe: the whole of Poland, to be vested in the Emperor's brother. Such are said to be the claims of Russia. France, too, seeks an extent of territory, and Austria expects also an enlargement, at the expense of the German confederacy. Thus, the consequence of a war professed to be undertaken for the restoration of Europe to its former state, with such arrangements as to secure its future tranquillity, is likely to terminate in the aggrandizement of three powers already too great, at the expense of their weaker neighbours.

The public mind in France has been much agitated by a discussion in the chamber of deputies, on the liberty of the press. The king, in the constitution, by which, before he came into possession of his power, he bound himself to regulate his future government, guaranteed the liberty of the press. On retracting this engagement on the attainment of the object of his wishes,

he modified the pledge by inserting in an article of the constitution he substituted, that the French have a right to publish and print their opinions, conforming to the laws intended to restrain the abuse of that liberty. This law lately proposed by the king, was the subject of animated discussion in the chamber of deputies, which in some measure corresponds with our house of commons. The law proposed was, that all publications, except such as contained thirty sheets (380 octavo pages) should be subject to a previous censorship.* The law was referred to a committee, who in an able and well-written report, disapproved of the previous censorship; a long debate ensued, which continued several days, and at last terminated in a compromise, by reducing the number of sheets admissible to publication without previous censorship, from 50 to 20, and by limiting the duration of the law for a year.

Ferdinand VII. has completed the sum of grateful acknowledgement to his people, for preserving to him the kingdom which he had so basely laid at the feet of a foreigner, by persecuting every person who had published in favour of his defenders, and by re-establishing the inquisition. Thus has Spain lost all that she sacrificed, so many years of blood and horrors to enjoy, and thus have the lives of thousands of our countrymen been wasted, and thousands of families rendered miserable, by a crusade published by the British Ministry, in favour of a being, with whose utter incapacity they must have been fully and intimately acquainted.

In England parliament has been prorogued, and the public attention chiefly directed to the exhibition with which the dissolute and idle rabble have been treated, at the expense of the industrious and sober.—This display, which occupied much of the thoughts of some persons in power, at a time when all the great potentates of Europe were engaged in schemes of domestic arrangement, or foreign acquisition—this display consisted of a mock sea-fight between two mock fleets, in a large pond in one of the parks near London, and in a discharge of fire-works, and two illuminated palaces. Every body flocked to see it, and every body was wearied with the tasteless arrangement, and disgusted with the frivolity of the exhibition. The festival terminated in what was called in court

* This censorship was the great grievance under which freedom of opinion groaned in Bonaparte's reign.

phrasology a carnival, of which we can in no better manner convey an idea, than by directing the attention of our Irish readers to a scene which many of them have visited, and which now is in full display. If they can conceive Donnybrook fair with all its idleness, intoxication, riot, and low debauchery, magnified into the greatest excess which an immense metropolis, aided by the encouragement of ministerial sanction, can bestow, they may have a faint guess of the pleasures of the Prince Regent's carnival. Its consequence has been much idleness abroad among the working classes, much wretchedness among their families at home, much employment to the surgeons in the public hospitals, much profit to the pawn-brokers, and much contempt on the devisers.

The judges have just completed their circuits through Ireland, and though the reports from many parts shew some dreadful instances of a spirit of lawless turbulence, nothing has yet been traced to what is commonly called a political source. Judge Fletcher's charge, in which, in direct contradiction to the Chief Secretary's assertions in the house of Commons, he deprecates the Orange system, as one great cause of the irritation and misery of Ireland, is highly deserving the study of every person who wishes to obtain a knowledge of the true state of this country.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

DECREES FOR RE-ESTABLISHING THE INQUISITION.

MADRID, JULY 25.—“The glorious title of Catholic, which distinguishes us from all other Christian Princes, is owing to the perseverance of the Kings of Spain, who would never tolerate in their states any other religion than the Catholic, Apostolic, and Roman. This title imposes upon me the duty to render myself worthy of it by all the means which heaven has placed within my power. The late troubles, and the war which has desolated during six years every province in the kingdom; the long abode which has been made in Spain by troops of different sects, almost all of whom were infected with hatred towards our religion, the disorder which has been the infallible result of this, and the inattention with which the affairs of our holy religion have been treated, during this unfortunate period; all these circumstances united have laid the field open to wicked persons, who have never experienced any check; dangerous opinions have been introduced,

and have taken root in our states, by the same means as they are spread in other countries.

“Wishing then to remedy so grievous an evil, and to preserve among my subjects the holy religion of Jesus Christ, which they have always revered, and in which they have lived and always wish to live, either on account of the personal obligation of having no other imposed on the princes who reign over them by the fundamental laws, which I have promised and sworn to observe, or because this religion is the most certain means of sparing my people from intestine dissensions, and insuring to them that tranquillity of which they stand in need, I have judged it necessary, under the present circumstances, that the tribunal of the holy office should resume its jurisdiction.

“Upon this subject, learned and virtuous Prelates, many respectable corporations and grave personages, ecclesiastics and seculars, have represented to me that Spain is indebted to this tribunal for the good fortune of not having fallen, in the sixteenth century, into errors which have caused so many misfortunes among other nations; and that on the contrary, at that period, the sciences were here cultivated with distinction, and Spain produced a multitude of great men distinguished by their knowledge and their piety. It has further been represented to me, that the oppressor of Europe has not neglected to employ, as an efficacious method of introducing the corruption and discord which supported so well his projects, the suppression of this tribunal, under the vain pretext that it could exist no longer in consequence of the enlightened state of the present age, and that the pretended Cortes, general and extraordinary, under the same pretext, and under the favour of the constitution, which they tumultuously decreed, abolished also the holy office, to the regret of the whole nation.

“For these causes, I have been earnestly supplicated to re-establish it in the exercise of its functions; and yielding to considerations so just, and to the wish manifested by my people, whose zeal for the religion of our ancestors has anticipated my orders, by hastening to recal spontaneously the subaltern inquisitors of some provinces.

“I have, therefore, resolved, that from this moment the supreme council of the Inquisition, and the other tribunals of the holy office, shall resume their authority conformable to the concessions which have been

made to them by the sovereign pontiffs, at the instance of my august predecessors, and by the prelates of the dioceses, and by the kings, who have assured to them the full exercise thereof, observing in this double jurisdiction, ecclesiastical and civil, the ordinances which were in force in the year 1808, and the laws which have, on different occasions, been made for obviating certain abuses. But, as independent of these ancient laws, it may be proper to add new ones on this subject, and my intention being to perfect that establishment in such manner as to render it eminently useful to my subjects, it is my desire that, as soon as the said supreme council of the Inquisition shall be assembled, that two of the members who compose it, joined to two of the members of the council of Castile, both appointed by me, shall examine the form and mode of proceeding of the holy office, in its processes, and with respect to the censure and prohibition of books; and if they find that the interests of my subjects, or the claims of sound justice, require any reform or change, they will make a report to me, supported by their observations, in order that I may take the necessary resolutions.

“ I, THE KING.”

“ July 21, 1814.”

This decree is countersigned by his Excellency Don Pedro Macanaz, whose grandfather passed the greater part of his life in prison, at the commencement of the last century, and died in exile for having written against the Inquisition.

THE PRINCE REGENT'S SPEECH ON PROROGUING PARLIAMENT.

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,

“ I cannot close this Session of Parliament without repeating the expression of my deep regret at the continuance of his Majesty's lamented indisposition.

“ When, in consequence of that calamity, the powers of government were first entrusted to me, I found this country engaged in a war with the greater part of Europe.

“ I determined to adhere to that line of policy which his Majesty had adopted, and in which he had persevered under so many and such trying difficulties.

The zealous and unremitting support and assistance which I have received from you, and from all classes of his Majesty's subjects; the consummate skill and ability displayed by the great commander, whose services you have so justly acknowledged; and the valour and intrepidity of his Majes-

ty's forces by sea and land, have enabled me, under the blessing of Divine Providence, to surmount all the difficulties with which I have had to contend.

“ I have the satisfaction of contemplating the full accomplishment of all those objects for which the war was either undertaken or continued; and the unexampled exertions of this country, combined with those of his Majesty's Allies, have succeeded in effecting the deliverance of Europe from the most galling and oppressive tyranny under which it has ever laboured.

“ The restoration of so many of the ancient and legitimate governments of the Continent, affords the best prospect of the permanence of that peace which, in conjunction with his Majesty's allies, I have concluded; and you may rely on my efforts being directed, at the approaching congress, to complete the settlement of Europe, which has been already so auspiciously begun, and to promote, upon principles of justice and impartiality, all these measures which may appear best calculated to secure the tranquillity and happiness of all the nations engaged in the late war.

“ I regret the continuance of hostilities with the United States of America. Notwithstanding the unprovoked aggression of the government of that country, and the circumstances under which it took place, I am sincerely desirous of the restoration of peace between the two nations, upon conditions honourable to both. But until this object can be obtained, I am persuaded you will see the necessity of availing myself of the means now at my disposal, to prosecute the war with increased vigour.

“ Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

“ I thank you for the liberal provision which you have made for the services of the present year.

“ The circumstances under which the war in Europe has been concluded, and the necessity of maintaining, for a time, a body of troops, in British pay, upon the Continent, have rendered a continuation of foreign expenditure unavoidable. You may rely, however, upon my determination to reduce the expenses of the country as rapidly as the nature of our situation will permit.

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,

“ It is a peculiar gratification to me to be enabled to assure you, that full justice is rendered throughout Europe to that manly perseverance which, amidst the convulsions on the Continent, has preserved this country against all the designs of its enemies,

has augmented the resources, and extended the dominions of the British Empire, and has proved in its result as beneficial to other nations as to our own.

"His Majesty's subjects cannot fail to be deeply sensible of the distinguished advantages which they have possessed; and I am persuaded that they will ascribe them, under providence, to that constitution which it has now for a century been the object of my family to maintain unimpaired, and under which the people of this realm have enjoyed more real liberty at home, and of

true glory abroad, than has ever fallen to the lot of any nation."

Then the Lord Chancellor, by the Prince Regent's command, said,

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"It is the command of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, acting in the name and on behalf of his Majesty, that this Parliament be prorogued to Saturday, the 27th of August next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Saturday, the 27th day of August next."

MONTHLY OCCURRENCES.

FOREIGN.

ANCIENT COINS.—A very interesting discovery of ancient medals has been recently made in the department of Jura, in the Alps. A boy who was feeding sheep having ascended a very high rock, struck his stick against it, when to his surprise it entered easily. Having called the attention of some of his companions to the circumstance, they dug into the aperture, and discovered a pot, half zinc and half copper, of the capacity of about two pints. It was filled with copper medals edged with silver, bearing the effigies of several Emperors, of excellent workmanship. Several have legends and exergues of various kinds, and all were covered with verdigris. They are of the reigns of Dioclesian, Constantine, Maximinus, &c. The form of the pot which contains these medals is antique: it is contracted equally at the upper part, its colour is whitish, but it exhibits neither inscriptions nor engravings.

The College of Medicine at Stockholm has discovered, that the leaves of the potatoe root, dried in a particular manner, give a tobacco far superior in point of fragrance to ordinary tobacco. The King has, in consequence, ordered the public authorities to favour, by every means in their power, the cultivation of this root. The Danish Gazettes warmly recommend the use of the substitute, which was becoming every day more general in the kingdom.

By accounts from Archangel, of the 17th of June, we learn, that the last winter had made greater inroads into the summer of that northern latitude, than ever had been known in the memory of man. The ice of the Dwina had not broke up till the 24th of May, and even in the middle of June the White Sea was full of drift ice. No ships had then arrived at Archangel from

foreign parts, but immense quantities of flax, hemp, tallow, and grain, were expected from the interior of Russia.

MARRIAGE.—In the Island of Malta, Fairfax Moresby, Esq. captain in the Royal Navy, and Knight of the Order of Maria Theresa, to Eliza Louisa, youngest daughter of John Williams, Esq. of that island.

DEATH.—M. Sergel, the celebrated Swedish sculptor, died lately at Stockholm, at the age of 74. He had resided nearly twenty years at Rome, and was a member of the academy of painting and sculpture at Paris, and of the French Institute. His principal works are the groupe of Psyche and Love; that of Mars and Venus; the monument erected to Descartes in one of the churches of Stockholm; and the statue of Gustavus III. placed near the palace.—M. Sergel has left several pupils behind him, one of whom, M. Hystroem, has obtained a pension to enable him to travel in Italy. It was upon M. Sergel's suggestion, that Gustavus purchased the *Endymion*, one of the *chef d'œuvre* at Rome, and which now forms the chief ornament of the Stockholm museum.

In France, M. Le Gallois, the ingenious author of the *Experiences sur le Principe de la Vie*. To the labours of this active experimentalist physiology is greatly indebted. A biographical account of his labours is announced in one of the French literary publications.

In April last, on board the Hon. Company's ship *Lord Melville*, on his passage home from Bengal, Robert Alexander, Esq. third son of Robert Alexander, Esq. of Sea-mount, county Dublin. He had filled various confidential situations in the Hon. East India Company's Bengal civil service, with distinguished credit.

BRITISH.

The Editor of the *Tribune* of the *Cortes*, who recently arrived in England from Lisbon, had a most difficult escape from Cadiz to the Portuguese capital. He was every where pursued by the agents of government, acting, it is said, under a special order from the king. He put on peasant's apparel, and oiled his face, in order to avoid detection.

Moore's almanack has this remarkable prediction under the month of July, 1814 :

"A consultation for an order for the famous marriage at hand ; but there is likely to be great inconvenience attending it."—
And these not less remarkable lines :

"Unwearied time exposes now to light,
Things hidden long in shrouds of sable night ;

"Ambition's pent-up thoughts break out in flame ;

"O ! what can such ungoverned passions tame !"

The Stock Exchange was lately thrown into a state of dismay by the declaration, that a person of some consideration in the city had confessed himself unable or unwilling to pay his differences, to the amount of 45,000*l*. There is something so dishonourable in a man going beyond his means in a gambling transaction, that a defaulter in this way is branded with opprobrium, and excluded from all honourable society. This makes a failure on the Stock Exchange of such consequence, that whenever a man of any connections is caught in speculations beyond his ability to make good, he is generally supported by his friends if they have the power to rescue him from disgrace, or that he has a character worth preserving. In this instance the individual is a member of Parliament, has been long an India Director, though he is now out in rotation, and was some time ago appointed by Ministers to a place of high financial responsibility, and of great emolument. Of this situation, we suppose, he will now be deprived ; and the moment that he was declared a defaulter, a canvass commenced against his re-election to the India board. He has left four or five brokers in the lurch.

DEATH.—At Perth, Mrs. Anne Henderson, aged 103 years. She retained her faculties and could read distinctly till within two years of her death, when she was suddenly deprived of her intellectual powers, but her bodily senses continued entire to the last.

A solemn service was performed in the

Roman Catholic chapel, Seel-street, Liverpool, for the Rev. Archibald McDonald. The altar, pulpit, and front seats had been hung with black cloth, and at nine the service commenced by the dirge, responsively recited by ten clergymen. The dead march in Saul preceded the requiem, which, with the *Dies Irm*, the *Sanctus*, and other parts of the Ritual, were performed under the direction of Mr. Molineux, "in tones softly suited to the solemn rite." The mass was closed by Mr. Molineux singing, "I know that my Redeemer liveth." After which the officiating clergyman walked in procession to the bottom of the chapel, when the burial service was read by the Rev. Thomas Fisher, and the body committed to the grave. Mr. Maybrick and Mr. Langhorn immediately performed in fine style "the trumpet shall sound."—The tears and sighs of a very numerous congregation spoke the estimation in which the good man was held.

LEINSTER.

The Prince Regent's birth-day, which also is the centenary of the accession of the Brunswick family to the throne of Great Britain, was celebrated in Dublin with unusual splendor. The Lord Mayor, with the city officers, and the common council, attended by the children of all the charitable institutions in the city, to the number of upwards of 3,700, went in procession from Stephen's-green to the Castle, with an address to the Lord Lieutenant, and thence to St. Patrick's cathedral, where an appropriate service was performed. Afterwards the Lord Lieutenant went in state, attended by the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, to lay the foundation stone of the new Post-office in Sackville-street. The day concluded with a display of fire works in Stephen's-green, which underwent some previous alterations, not much to its advantage, particularly in lopping the trees and cutting down the hedge, the place of which was supplied by a double rank of soldiers. The statue of King George was illuminated with lamps of various devices. The fire-works by no means equalled the public expectation.

The crown business at the late assizes of Wexford commenced by the following charge to the grand jury, delivered by the Hon. JUSTICE FLETCHER :

Gentlemen of the Grand Jury,

It is with sincere pleasure I congratulate you upon the appearance of the state of your county—I say appearance, because

I have no means whatever of knowing any thing upon the subject, except from the calendar before me. In that calendar I find very few numbers indeed—two, or three, or four crimes, of general occurrence in the country: one homicide, which appears to have been committed, certainly with circumstances of atrocity; but, as far as I can collect from the examinations, originating in private malice and individual revenge; and not connected with any of those disturbances, of which we have heard so much, in different parts of the kingdom.

Gentlemen—It is matter of great congratulation, that, after a period of 30 years, (at the commencement of which I first knew the county of Wexford,) I have reason to say, it is precisely in the same situation in which it was then, except as to an increase of wealth and population, and an improvement in agriculture, which has ameliorated its condition and multiplied its resources. The county of Wexford was then a moral curiosity. When other parts of the country were lawless and disturbed, this county had a peasantry, industrious in their habits, social in their disposition, satisfied with their state, and amenable to the laws, cultivating their farms with an assiduity, which insured a competency. Their conduct was peaceful, their apparel whole, their morals improved, their lives spent in the frequent interchange of mutual good offices. It was a state of things which I reflect upon with pleasure. Each succeeding circuit shewed me wild heaths and uncultivated tracts, brought under the dominion of the plough, and producing corn for the sustenance of man. As it was then, so it continued for many years, until those unhappy disturbances, which burst out in this county, with such a sudden and unexpected explosion. I knew what the state of things was then, and how that explosion was produced—professionally I knew it; because I enjoyed peculiar advantages of knowledge, which other men did not enjoy. For several years I conducted the prosecutions for the crown at Wexford; and hence I derived an intimate knowledge of those transactions. Besides, I was connected with no party, I was indifferent about party. But here I stop; I willingly draw a veil over the events of those days, and their causes. God forbid that I should tear asunder wounds, which, I hope, are completely and for ever closed.

I have now been absent from this

county twelve years (with the exception of one Assizes, when I came here in the King's Commission, but upon that occasion I did not sit, as I now do, in the Crown Court). I can say, however, with the greatest truth, that at no period from my earliest acquaintance with your county, down to the present time, do I remember to have seen it in more profound tranquillity, more perfect peace, more complete security, than at present—a state of things indicating a due administration of the laws by magistrates, neither over zealous and too active on the one hand, nor too negligent and supine on the other.

Such, I do hope, is the true and actual state of your county; for, gentlemen, I have, I repeat it, no means of knowing the fact, except from the quantity of alleged crime, the number of persons charged, and the nature of those charges as set out in this calendar. But why, Gentlemen, have I entered into this detail? I answer, for these weighty and urgent reasons, because much exaggeration and misrepresentation have gone abroad, and the extent and causes of disturbances have been much mistated. In what I now say, or shall say, I do not impute any thing to any individual of this county—I will not meddle with its internal politics; but this I know, that its situation has been variously represented. Several advertisements in newspapers, now before me (the Wexford Journals of last March and April) describe this county as being in a most alarming state of disturbance. Other advertisements affirm, on the other hand, that the county has never enjoyed more profound tranquillity. These advertisements have been, I understand, republished in the prints of Dublin and London; and have naturally excited strong sensations. It is not for me to inquire into the motive of those opposite statements. I know them not. It is not my intention, it is not my duty, to impute any particular motives to any individuals; but it is within the sphere of my public duty to state, for your instruction, what I have observed as the origin and grounds of similar reports and misrepresentations in other counties, whither the discharge of my public duty has called me; and where I have had judicial knowledge of what had passed. It may be not uninteresting to state, what appeared to me to be the causes of those disturbances, which have occasioned those misrepresentations and exaggerations, together with the reasons

which have impelled the legislature to swell the criminal code, session after session, with new statutes, for vindicating the peace of this country.

In my circuits through other parts of the kingdom, I have seen the lower orders of the people disturbed by many causes, not peculiar to any particular counties, operating with more effect in some, but to a greater or less extent in all. I have seen them operating with extended effect in the north-west circuit, in the counties of Mayo, Donegal, Derry, Roscommon, &c. &c. These effects have made a deep impression on my mind. My observations, certainly, have been those of an individual, but of an individual, seeing the same facts coming before him, judicially, time after time, and I do now publicly state, that never, during the entire period of my judicial experience, (comprising sixteen circuits), have I discovered or observed any serious purpose, or settled scheme, of assailing his Majesty's government, or any conspiracy connected with internal rebels, or foreign foes. But various, deep-rooted, and neglected causes, producing similar effects throughout this country, have conspired to create the evils, which really and truly do exist.

First—The extraordinary rise of land, occasioned by the great and increasing demand for the necessaries of life; and by producing large profits to the possessors of farms, excited a proportionate avidity for acquiring or renting lands. Hence extravagant rents have been bid for lands, without any great consideration; and I have seen these two circumstances operating upon each other, like cause and effect—the cause producing the effect; and the effect, by re-action, producing the cause.

Next, we all know, that the country has been deluged by an enormous paper currency, which has generated a new crime, now prominent upon the list in every calendar, the crime of making and uttering forged bank notes. In every province, we have seen private banks failing, and ruining multitudes; and thus have fresh mischiefs flowed from this paper circulation. In the next place, the country has seen a magistracy over active in some instances, and quite supine in others. This circumstance has materially affected the administration of the laws in Ireland. In this respect, I have found that those societies, called ORANGE SOCIETIES, have produced most mischievous effects,

and particularly in the north of Ireland.

They poison the very fountain of justice; and even some magistrates, under their influence, have, in too many instances, violated their duty and their oaths. I do not hesitate to say, that all associations, of every description in this country, whether of orangemen or ribbonmen, whether distinguished by the colour of orange or of green—all combinations of persons bound to each other (by the obligation of an oath) in a league for a common purpose, endangering the peace of the country, I pronounce them to be contrary to law.—And should it ever come before me to decide upon the question, I shall not hesitate to send up bills of indictment to a grand jury against the individuals, members of such an association, wherever I can find the charge properly sustained. Of this I am certain, that so long as those associations are permitted to act in the lawless manner they do, there will be no tranquillity in this country, and particularly in the north of Ireland. There, those disturbers of the public peace, who assume the name of orange yeomen, frequent the fairs and markets with arms in their hands, under the pretence of self-defence, or of protecting the public peace, but with the lurking view of inviting the attacks from the ribbonmen, confident that, armed as they are, they must overcome defenceless opponents, and put them down. Murders have been repeatedly perpetrated upon such occasions; and, though legal prosecutions have ensued, yet, such have been the baneful consequences of those factious associations, that, under their influence, petty juries have declined, upon some occasions, to do their duty. These facts have fallen under my own view. It was sufficient to say, such a man displayed such a colour, to produce an utter disbelief of his testimony; or, when another has stood with his hand at the bar, the display of his party badge has mitigated the murder into manslaughter.

Gentlemen—I do repeat, that these are my sentiments, not merely as an individual, but as a man discharging his judicial duty. I hope with firmness and integrity. With these orange associations I connect all commemorations and processions, producing embittering recollections, and inflicting wounds upon the feelings of others; and I do emphatically state it as my settled opinion, that, until those associations are effectually pulled down, and the arms taken

from their hands, in vain will the North of Ireland expect tranquillity or peace.

Gentlemen—That moderate pittance which the high rents leave to the poor peasantry, the large county assessments nearly take from them; roads are frequently planned and made, not for the general advantage of the country, but to suit the particular views of a neighbouring landholder, at the public expense. Such abuses shake the very foundation of the law; they ought to be checked. Superadded to these mischiefs, are the permanent and occasional absentee landlords, residing in another country, not known to their tenantry, but by their agents, who extract the uttermost penny of the value of the lands. If a lease happens to fall in, they set the farm by public auction to the highest bidder.—No gratitude for past services, no preference of the fair offer, no predilection for the ancient tenantry, be they ever so deserving; but, if the highest price be not acceded to, the depopulation of an entire tract of country ensues. What then is the wretched peasant to do?—Chased from the spot, where he had first drawn his breath; where he had first seen the light of heaven, incapable of procuring any other means of existence—vexed with those exactions I have enumerated, and harassed by the payment of tythes, can we be surprised that a peasant, of unenlightened mind, of uneducated habits, should rush upon the perpetration of crimes, followed by the punishment of the rope and the gibbet? Nothing (as the peasantry imagine) remains for them, thus harassed and thus destitute, but with strong hand to deter the stranger from intruding upon their farms; and to extort from the weakness and terror of their landlords, (from whose gratitude or good feelings they have failed to win it) a kind of preference for their ancient tenantry.

Such, gentlemen, have been the causes which I have seen thus operating in the North of Ireland, and in part of the South and West. I have observed, too, as the consequences of those Orange combinations and confederacies, men, ferocious in their habits, uneducated, not knowing what remedy to resort to; in their despair, flying in the face of the law, entering into dangerous and criminal counter associations, and endeavouring to procure arms, in order to meet, upon equal terms, their Orange assailants.

To these several causes of disturbance we may add certain moral causes. There

has existed an ancient connexion, salutary in its nature, between the Catholic Pastor and his flock. This connexion has been often, with very little reflection, inveighed against, by those who call themselves friends to the Constitution in Church and State. I have had judicial opportunities of knowing, that this connection between the Catholic Pastor and his flock has been, in some instances, weakened, and nearly destroyed; the flock, goaded by their wants, and flying in the face of the Pastor, with a lamentable abandonment of all religious feeling, and a dereliction of all regard to that pastoral superintendence, which is so essential to the tranquillity of the country. For, if men have no prospect here, but of a continued series of want, and labour, and privation; and if the hopes and fears of a future state are withdrawn from them, by an utter separation from their own Pastor, what must be the state of society? The ties of religion and morality being thus loosened, a frightful state of things has ensued; perjury has abounded; the sanctity of oaths has ceased to be binding, save where they administer to the sanctity of the parties. The oaths of the Orange associations, or of the ribbon-men, have, indeed, continued to be obligatory. As for oaths administered in a Court of Justice, they have been set at naught.

Gentlemen, another deep-rooted cause of immorality has been the operation of the county presentment code of Ireland, abused, as it has been, for the purposes of fraud and peculation. Will you not be astonished, when I assure you, that I have had information judicially, from an upright country gentleman and grand juror of unquestionable veracity in a western county, that in the general practice, not one in ten of the accounting affidavits was actually sworn at all? Magistrates have signed, and given away printed forms of such affidavits in blank, to be filled up at the pleasure of the party. This abuse produced a strong representation from me to the grand jury; and had I known the fact in time, I would have made an example of those magistrates who were guilty of so scandalous a dereliction of duty. Another source of immorality may be traced in the registry of freeholds. Oaths of registration are taken, which, if not perjury, are something very near it. The tenantry are driven to the hustings, and there, collected like sheep in a pen, they must poll for the great undertaker

who has purchased them by his jobs; and this is frequently done, with little regard to conscience or duty, or the real value of the alleged freehold.

Another snare of immorality lay in the hasty mode of pronouncing decrees upon civil bills, which was common before assistant barristers were nominated for the several counties. All these concurring causes, however, created such a contempt for oaths, that I have often lamented it to be my painful lot to preside in a court of justice, and to be obliged to listen to such abominable profanation.

I now come to another source of vice and mischief, with which you are, perhaps, unacquainted, "illicit distillation." From this source, a dreadful series of evils and crimes has flowed upon our land. The excessive increase of rents had induced many persons to hid rents for their farms, which they knew they could not fairly or properly discharge; but they flattered themselves, that, in the course of years, the value of those farms would rise still higher, and that thus they might ultimately acquire beneficial interests. In the mean time, they have had recourse to illicit distillation, as the means of making good their rents. Hence the public revenue has been defrauded to the amount of millions; nay, it is a fact, that at one period, not far back, there was not a single licensed distillery in an entire province, namely the north-west circuit, where the consumption of spirituous liquors is, perhaps, called for by the coldness and humidity of the climate. The old powers of the law having proved unavailing, the legislature was compelled to enact new laws, which, though clashing with the very first principles of evidence under our happy constitution, were yet called for by the exigency of the times; laws, which qualify a prosecutor to be as a witness in his own cause. If he feared not the consequences of perjury, he gained the suit, and put the money into his pocket. Hence, a kind of bounty was necessarily tendered to false swearing; and, we all know, the revenue folk are not very remarkable for a scrupulous feeling in such cases. These oaths were answered again by the oaths of the parties charged, who, in order to avoid the fine, denied the existence of any still upon their lands. Thus have I witnessed trials, where, in my judgment, the revenue officer, who came to impose the fine, was perjured; the witnesses who came to avert it, perjured; and the petty

jury, who tried the cause, perjured, for they declined to do their duty, because they were, or might be, interested in the event; or because the easy procurement of those illicit spirits produced an increased consumption of grain for their benefit. The resident gentry of the country, generally, winked with both their eyes at this practice, and why? because it brought home to the doors of their tenantry a market for their corn; and consequently increased the rents of their lands; besides, they were themselves consumers of those liquors, and in every town and village there was an unlicensed house for retailing them. This consumption of spirits produced such pernicious effects, that at length the executive powers deemed it high time to put an end to the system. The consequence was, that the people, rendered ferocious by the use of those liquors, and accustomed to lawless habits, resorted to force, resisted the laws, opposed the military, and hence have resulted riots, assaults, and murders.

Can you wonder, that, in such an immoral state of things, all tranquillity and obedience to the law were banished from those counties? Absentees too, have increased: disgusted with the state of things, they desert their post in the time of peril; but, yet, should a farm happen to fall out of lease, keeping strict eye that it be set up to the highest bidder. These things have produced disturbances every where; but, gentlemen, whether they apply to your county, to any extent, or at all, is for your consideration.

I have thought it right, from the false colouring that has been given to those things, to remove all such illusions, and to state the plain facts.

Gentlemen, I have heretofore, with good success, called upon the grand jury of a great northern county (Donegal) (where private distillation had reached to an intolerable excess) to shew some sense of their own interests by the suppression of that practice; and I am happy to say, that call was attended to, and produced useful public resolutions. I am glad to hear that this mischief is a stranger in your county; guard against its introduction: it is one of the greatest practical mischiefs; the revenue is plundered by it, the morals of the people depraved, and their conduct rendered riotous and savage; establish, in the room of whiskey, a wholesome malt liquor, and you will keep your peasantry in peace, in health, and in vigour.

Having thus given you a sort of sketch of what I have seen upon another circuit, I shall advert to what I have observed upon the present circuit. The first county of this circuit, which was the object of his majesty's commission, was Kilkenny. The country had been previously alarmed with such rumours and stories from that quarter, that the order of this circuit was inverted, for the express purpose, as was alleged, of meeting the supposed exigencies of that county by an early assizes. I did not preside in the criminal court there, but I have been informed by my brother Judge (DAY) of what passed. Four capital convictions took place; of which the subject matter arose from two transactions only. One of those transactions, comprising two of those convictions, was of no recent date; it occurred early in 1813, and had been already tried at the summer assizes of Kilkenny, in that year. At that assizes, the two criminals had been found guilty of an attempt at assassination, a most atrocious outrage indeed. Their execution was suspended by an argument upon the legality of their conviction; the conviction was proved illegal, and of course they were, for the second time, tried and convicted at the late assizes. But, how such a case could warrant the extraordinary colouring which was given to the alleged disturbances of that county, or called for any parade or bustle, I am wholly at a loss to discover. The other of those transactions was, also, of a flagitious nature, it was a heinous burglary, committed by the two other criminals, in the house of Mr. Sutton. They were convicted, and have suffered the punishment due to their crime. But was this a cause for exciting public alarm, or spreading national disquietude, or for causing the ordinary course of the circuit to be inverted, and lending every person to apprehend machinations and conspiracies of the most deep and desperate kind? From Kilkenny the Commission proceeded to Clonmel. There I presided in the crown court; the calendar presented a sad list of crimes—one hundred and twenty names appeared upon the face of the crown book. There were several government prosecutions, conducted by able gentlemen of the bar, and by the crown solicitor at the appointment, and by the direction of the government, who had been alarmed for the peace of the country. Yet, notwithstanding all this formidable

array of crime, and this multitude of prisoners, I had the good fortune to discharge the goal of that county in two days and a half. Two persons only were capitally convicted at that assizes. One of them was neither the subject of a public prosecution, nor of a private one. It was a case upon Lord Ellenborough's act, for assaulting with weapons, (in that case with a pitch-fork) with an intention to kill, maim, or disfigure. The unfortunate man had been out upon bail; and, supposing that he had made his peace with his prosecutor, had surrendered himself, not apprehending any prosecution. The bail had forfeited their recognizance at the assizes preceding, and I mention this fact, lest it might be imagined that the conductors of the crown prosecutions had slumbered on their post, or had been remiss in their duty. I do believe that they knew nothing of the prosecutor's intention to appear. The prisoner was compelled to come in, by the magistrate who had bailed him, and who had been, at the preceding assizes, fined 100*l.* for thus bailing a person, charged with a capital felony. The prisoner had the benefit of able counsel, his trial was not hurried on; a jury of his country, under the superintendence of a judge, (I hope not devoid of humanity,) found him guilty. But, let me ask, what had all this to do with public disturbances? A people, ferocious in their habits, and violent in their animosities, when intoxicated with whiskey, formed into factions amongst themselves, classed by barbarous appellations, may bruise each other with sticks, or even slay each other with mortal weapons, but I would ask any man, what connexion could the conviction of that criminal, (under Lord Ellenborough's act,) have with associations against law, order, and the government?

There was a second conviction at Clonmel, in a case of a rape and forcible abduction. The prosecutrix was the principal witness, in support of that conviction; but the credit due to her testimony has been so materially affected by facts, since disclosed, that I thought it my duty to name a distant day for the execution of the sentence, in order to afford time for the respectable gentlemen, who have interfered on behalf of the prisoner, to bring his case fairly and satisfactorily under the consideration of his majesty's government.

But, although those two convictions involved gross violations of the laws,

yet what was there of political disturbance, or of factious contrivance, in either case? I could not see any thing of the kind.

Next, the commission proceeded to Waterford, which was represented to us as being in a most disturbed state. But, in no one part of the county did it appear, that there was that frequency of crime, from which any systematic hostility to the constituted authorities could be inferred. There was one conviction for an abominable conspiracy to poison; but the actuating motive appeared to be, not of a public nature, but mere individual interest. It was the case of a miscreant, from the county of Cork, hired and sent for the particular purpose of getting rid of an aged man, whose life was the surviving life in an old lease, and which lease the vile contriver was materially interested in extinguishing. This was the real history of this crime.

Another conviction was for the murder of Mr. Smyth, in the month of October last. I must observe that this gentleman was a Roman Catholic. What the cause of this murder may have been, is at present only matter of private surmise. But no person has even whispered that it proceeded from political or party feelings of any kind. There was a third capital conviction at Waterford. It was that of two men, for burglary in a dwelling-house. This was the only transaction that was, in its nature, of a public description. It appeared in evidence, that a body of armed men planned and executed an attack upon the house; but the only discoverable motive was, that "the owner had previously been an inhabitant of the county of Cork, and had ventured to take the farm in question." Here, indeed, we see those public outrages proceeding to a degree mischievous in the extreme, and deeply to be lamented.—Those unfortunate wretches will imagine that, because a stranger to the county has the audacity to interfere between them and their landlord, they are to violate the laws, assemble in arms, and make an example of the intruder, who shall settle in this country. These are terrible delusions, pregnant with violence, bloodshed, and anarchy. The peasantry cannot too soon reject and abhor them, as ruinous and absurd. Gentlemen, I do not allude to your county. I hope the system of getting lands by auction, of squeezing out of the vitals of the tenantry more than the actual value of the produce of the land, does not exist in this

county. I hope and believe no such system prevails here—because like causes produce like effects; and, in that case, the calendar now before me would have exhibited a very different picture. At present, its contents amount to one charge of murder, one of rape, and one against a woman, for the supposed murder of a bastard child. These are crimes of a high and serious nature; yet of ordinary occurrence in every county. But I can descry no trace of any system of general disaffection, or of political mischief. I, therefore, am utterly at a loss to account for those alarming assertions, circulated throughout the empire, by those advertisements in the Wexford journals of March and April last, importing to be resolutions declaring the county in a state of disturbance; whilst, on the contrary side, we have the advertisements of respectable Magistrates, affirming that there was no colour for those alarming assertions, and that the county was in a state of profound tranquillity.

Gentlemen—these facts, peculiar to your county, have induced me to travel at length into this subject, in order to guard against being affected by similar alarms, originating in other counties. I hope, that by your steady conduct in your own county, you will prevent the maligners of this country from asserting, any where, that the Almighty has poured the full phials of his wrath upon this land, so favoured by nature with her richest gifts.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ULSTER.

A man in the vicinity of Donaghadee tried how far the sagacity of a dog might be cultivated, and what degree of perfection a little care and attention to the animal might produce. Accordingly he made use of a number of little common experiments—such as hiding a ball or a top, or a piece of money, in some common place; and afterwards he tried some other experiments more difficult, such as pointing to a saw or a hammer, saying, "Captain, this is a hammer," holding it up in his hand, or "this is a saw," as might be the case; impressing it upon the dog by often repeating, "this is a saw—a saw—a saw!—mind, Captain, a saw!" the name of the article. The dog, by degrees, came to pay such attention, as to watch the form of the lips, and the expressions of his master, and earnestly listened to his articulation.

The dog was prohibited from being led off by any tricks which are common

to be taught by boys, and inured to the tuition of every thing which might be imbibed by a rational being. At the age of four, the dog was brought to that perfection (being the constant companion of his master), that he could have been sent home from any place to bring an article, even the distance of a mile or more; and when met on the road by any person, and the article in his mouth, he would evade their approach, by some circuitous route, least that he might be attacked in his progress.

The Tygris frigate and a small sloop of war, stationed in Belfast lough, lately proceeded to sea, to look out for the American privateer which has committed so much havoc along this coast.

MUNSTER.

On the 13th of this month a telegraph signal announced an American privateer off Cape Clear, steering S. W. on which a scene of unusual bustle and activity took place, and in a short time the Castilian was seen getting under weigh.—Shortly after the Avon and President followed. It is said that an American frigate is also in the Channel.

Early in this month, four armed fellows entered the house of W. Aldwell, Esq. of Prospect, near Fethard, at noon-day, and carried away what arms they found. Some deluded persons still continue the practice of firing arms at night in the same quarter, and alarm the country by carrying off horses, and riding them about till day-break.

BIRTH.—In Limerick, the lady of Thomas Taverner, Esq. of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.—At Prospect Hall, near Killarney, by the Right Rev. Dr. Sughrue, Edward Hore, Esq. merchant of Cork, to Miss Gramont, of London.

At Pallas church, near Limerick, by the Rev. Archdeacon Wall, Thomas Coppinger, Esq. of Cashel, to Catharine, daughter of the late Benjamin White, Esq. of Limerick.

DEATHS.—At Murty-clough, in the county Clare, in the 50th year of her

age, of a few hours illness, Mrs. Galbraith, wife of Richard Galbraith, of Cappard, in said county, Esq. and daughter of the late Pat. Staunton, of Soho, Esq.

At Fairfield, near Wexford, Mrs. O'Toole, relict of the late Laurence O'Toole, Esq. and mother to Lieut.-Col. Bryan O'Toole, who so bravely distinguished himself in the late campaigns in Spain and Portugal.

At Plassey, near Limerick, Thomas Mannell, Esq.

CONNAUGHT.

A very numerous and respectable meeting of the creditors of the bank of Messrs. French and Co. was held on the 15th inst. at the banking-house, Ormond-quay, Dublin, when a statement was laid before them, of which the following is the result:

Debts	L.239,616	4	10
Resources	351,198	13	4½
Surplus	L.111,582	8	6½

It appears that the firm, without resorting to their private property, were able to shew funds exceeding their debts by more than 13,000l. But their resources did not stop here. Lord Ffrench came forward and said—"I have property on which they can make considerable drafts. If what they exhibit on their own account will not give ample satisfaction to their creditors, I here offer to deliver every foot of land I possess, to any trustees, and to receive from them, until the last shilling of the debts of the firm shall be discharged, any annual pittance they choose to allow me.

After resolutions to appoint trustees, and not to sue out a commission of bankruptcy, the following trustees were chosen:

Lord Ffrench,	Wm. Murphy,
Randal M'Donnel,	John Burke,
Bart. Maziere,	James Kelly,
Val. O'Connor,	M. O'Brien, Esqra.

BIRTH.—In Tuam, the Right Hon. Lady Anne Beresford, of a son.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

Confidence has as yet by no means recovered the shock occasioned by the instantaneous change from a state of the most intolerant hostility to peace; failures and stoppages of houses, till now considered substantial, prove that public credit still totters. Indeed the expectations formed during war, of the blessings accruing to the commercial world, from the restoration of the general intercourse between all parts of civilized society, were much too sanguine. After the state of paralysis produced by the hostile decrees of France and England, the rapid return of the general circulation must have, and has, occasioned a temporary re-

valuation highly injurious to commerce. Things, however, are beginning to find their level.

The British traders express great apprehensions at the superior ingenuity and cheapness of many French manufactures. Meetings of the Nottingham hosiers have been called, to prevent the pernicious interference of French ingenuity. Spain, for the present, rejects our manufactures altogether; this can only arise from a preference, strange as it may be, to French connexion, for the nation must be supplied almost wholly from abroad, as it is quite incapable, in its present state, of supplying its own consumption.

The American war also excites much uneasiness in the mercantile world. There is at present a large stock of Transatlantic produce in the market; an immediate peace would have the effect of pouring in such an additional supply as to lower the prices so much that many holders must sink under it. On the contrary the activity of the American privateers, co-operating with the unaccountable inactivity of our protecting squadrons, harasses the trade in the neighbourhood of these islands excessively. Insurances across channel have risen from 15s. to five guineas per cent. It is strange that with a fleet of more than 1000 vessels of war, we cannot prevent our own coasts from being insulted. But the following extract will prove that the injured British merchant is not to expect insults from his enemies only. The only remark we shall make upon this most extraordinary document is, that if the secretary to the Admiralty, (who, by the bye, is a very copious writer, when he chooses) could not procure the sufferers redress, he might at least have answered with civility.

"The merchants of Bristol have repeatedly applied to the Admiralty, representing the necessity of more adequate protection to the trade in the Channel. To the last of these applications, Mr. Croker replied in the following choice specimen of official brevity:—

"Admiralty Office, 17th August, 1814.

"Sir,—I have received your letter of the 16th instant, respecting the capture of the Berwickshire packet, by the Prince of Neufchatel American privateer, and I have laid the same before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

"I am, Sir, your very humble servant."

As an amusing contrast to this courteous, concise, and consolatory epistle from Mr. Croker, we give the following, which we can assure our readers is equally genuine:—

"Captain —, of the Shark American privateer, presents his compliments to the gentlemen of the commercial rooms, Bristol, and begs their acceptance of a few American papers, of recent dates."

The papers which accompanied this polite message, were sent by the master of one of the captured vessels; they are from New York to the 10th of July, and are now filed at the commercial rooms.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

THE late rains, though they have not materially injured the standing grain, yet have had a tendency to delay the general harvest. But little grain was cut until towards the end of the month; but the 1st of September will see scarcely any standing. The wheat in most places appears to be under an average crop.—The early potatoes are in general good and plentiful; the main crop also appears well above ground. The cultivation of vetches, which has lately grown much into practice in the neighbourhood of Dublin, has succeeded fully to the wishes of those who have tried it; the present crop affords a very favourable promise.—Beans also, which are much cultivated in some districts in the north of Ireland, chiefly for exportation to Scotland, appear to have succeeded.

Much difficulty has been experienced in the sowing of Vetches, which may be easily obviated by pursuing the following simple plan:—Form a triangle of three poles of sufficient length and strength, and round this make the stack of Vetches; a constant ventilation is thus obtained, and all pressure avoided, which often produces heat and must. They should be thus formed into stacks of such a size as can be conveniently put at once upon the loft; and with the Ruta Baga will be found the most nutritive and strengthening food for horses and working oxen.

The termination of war affords at least one advantage to farmers, in liberating

a number of serviceable hands from the trammels of military servitude, to the more pleasing and beneficial occupation of assisting in bringing in the harvest.

We subjoin the following excellent remarks relating to this subject, which must now occupy the farmer's undivided attention:

"As a wet harvest proves so inimical to wheat, it should seem a piece of good husbandry to suffer the crop to stand till it be fully ripened, both in straw and berry, that there may be required the less portion of time to leave it abroad after it be cut; and, if barley be not mown till it has attained its utmost degree of maturity, and is not greatly encumbered with weeds or grass, the swarths may be immediately forked up after the scythe, and carried straight into the barn. It is by no means prudent to fork or rake a greater number of shocks in a day, than can be conveniently housed before night, as the shock will be sooner injured by the rain, than the corn which lies in the state wherein the scythe had left it; neither is it convenient to pursue the mowing of several fields of this grain in too quick succession, lest a glut of rain should ensue, which might prevent the housing of it for a week, or perhaps longer, which would not only render the barley of an ill colour, but cause great part of it to spear, besides reducing the value of the straw; whereas in its pristine state it will take little damage whilst it remains upright, but if much lodged, a succession of wet weather will promote the growth of those ears which may come in contact with the earth. A lodged crop of barley, therefore, ought to be mown in the first dry time, when the berry had attained its full growth.

"Of all other grain, oats take the least damage in a wet harvest. On the contrary, a shower or two is rather beneficial to them while they lie on the swarth, as the grain is thereby not only improved in weight and size, but the straw disposed more easily to part with its contents, and much labour is saved to the thrasher; so that the farmer generally wishes to see his oats once thoroughly soaked before they are carried home; nay, in case of necessity, this grain may be housed in a wet day; and when other corn would be totally spoiled by being brought to the barn in a showery time, the oats will receive no injury from this circumstance."—(*Farmer's Journal.*)

PRICE OF GRAIN, &c.

	Dublin.	Waterford.	Belfast.	Athlone.	Cork.	Wexford.
	M. P.	N. P.	M. P.	M. P.	20 stone.	M. P.
Wheat	32s. 6d.	27s. 6d.	13s. 6d.	22s. 6d.	28s. 0d.	28s. 0d.
Barley	14s. 10d.	11s. 6d.	0s. 0d.	0s. 0d.	0s. 0d.	16s. 0d.
Oats	13s. 7d.	10s. 3d.	9s. 0d.	9s. 0d.	33 st. 25s.	9s. 3d.
Oatmeal	13s. 0d.	12s. 6d.	14s. 6d.	Stone. 1s. 6d.	0s. 0d.	0s. 0d.
Potatoes	cwt. to 1s.	st. 9d. to 12d.	cwt. 4s. to 5s.	stone. 2d. to 3d.	stone. 10d.	stone. 5d. to 6d.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Poems by W. K. and N. G. H. are unavoidably postponed, but will appear in course.

Some communications signed AUGUSTUS, and directed to a different periodical publication, have come to our office by mistake. We wish to know whether the Author will have them sent as directed, or left for return.

Every communication that T. F. sends us, may be certain of a favourable reception.

EXPOSITIONIS, MARITUS, and A GOTHIC TRAVELLER, shall appear in *successu*.

A SUBSCRIBER is informed that the list he inquires for will appear in our supplementary number for December.

We must decline publishing the account of Lough Thomond, as it has already appeared in a periodical publication.

Three poems, signed M. R. and one G. R. are left at the publisher's for return.

We have lately received a communication, which we have reason to think is genuine, containing a statement of the Galway school, different from what appears in our account of that establishment in No. IX. The articles in the *Museum* relating to the public schools in Ireland, have been compiled from the Reports of the Board of Education; we therefore do not feel ourselves committed as to the truth of the statements. They have been before the public several years, and as long as they were uncontradicted, we had every reason to suppose them correct. The gentleman who conceives himself aggrieved by the statement there made, must therefore appeal for redress to the original cause of the injury.

The following is the statement of the Galway school, published by the Board of Education, and reprinted by order of the House of Commons, to which we annex a statement of the school transmitted to us, as we have reason to believe, by authority of the gentleman himself.

2nd. Galway School.—The Rev. Thomas Canham Wade, at his examination before the Board, on the 16th of January, 1807, stated that he was appointed master of this school in 1801, at the salary of 100*l.* per annum, with the addition of a farm of 33 acres, about a mile from the town, which he let at 4*l.* per acre, (besides a field of three acres nearer the town, allowed him by the governors for grazing) the whole subject to a head rent to the governors of 171. 7*s.* per annum. He is also allowed to let the lower part of the school house, which is situate in the High street of Galway, for shops, the rent of which amounted at that time to 96*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.*; his appointments may therefore be estimated at more than 320*l.* per annum. There is an usher appointed by the governors at 40*l.* per annum. The master is obliged to keep the house in repair, but it was put into complete order on his appointment, at the expense of the governors. It was stated by him to be capable of accommodating 16 boarders, but he never had had more than one. The number of scholars then in his school was 31, of whom 14 were instructed in classics by the usher, to whom he allowed the profits of their tuition; viz. four guineas per annum. The rest were English scholars, and taught also by the usher, on the same terms, except in writing and accounts, in which the master instructed all the boys himself, without any extra charge. Since his examination it appears that the usher has resigned, and another been appointed by the governors. Whether from that circumstance, or from the master having paid more attention to classical instruction, the number of classical scholars appears by the last return to the governors (which is, or ought to be, made annually by all the masters) to have increased considerably. But the situation of the school in one of the closest and most thronged streets, surrounded by shops, and without any play ground, is most unfavourable for boarders, even if the house could properly accommodate them. And having been so represented to the governors by one of their body, who had visited it in the year 1806, it has been resolved to erect a new school and school house, at a small distance from the town, on ground belonging to the governors, which was ordered to be enclosed for the purpose this summer. The present high price of timber has probably been the reason that no further steps have been taken for carrying this very desirable scheme into execution.

"Galway School.—In the year 1810 there were 43 pupils at the school of Galway, of whom six were boarders; the master's five sons residents; nine day pupils, paying as such; and 23 receiving their education gratis. When the Rev. Mr. Wade was appointed a master to the school, in the year 1800, the salary was 314*l.* per annum; but in consequence of the dangerous state of the old house in High-street, the master was removed, and his salary reduced by 104*l.* per annum, by being deprived of the rents of the shops under the old house, which his predecessors, from the first establishment, had always received. The Rev. Mr. Wade, from his first appointment, did never delegate his business to the usher, but invariably devoted his whole time and attention to the duties of his office.—The within is a correct and accurate description of the Galway school, in the year 1810, which has been misrepresented in the *Monthly Museum* for June, 1814."

1 JY 59



Steele Sc.

The Hon.^{ble} William Fletcher.
One of the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas in Ireland

Engraved by Procas for the Dublin Monthly Museum.